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FBIS-LAT-89-162 *23 August 1989*

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Cuba

TV Carries 'Yankee Provocations in Panama'
FL2208233089

[Editorial Report] Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish at 0241 GMT on 22 August carries an approximately 50-minute recorded "special program" entitled "Yankee Provocations in Panama".

Cuban television commentator Eduardo Dimas introduces the program saying that the GRANMA editorial, denouncing the "imminent Yankee aggression" against Panama, makes reference to recently obtained television footage showing what is happening in the brother country. He says the footage shows "Yankee soldiery on the same indignant level as the occupying Nazis during World War II." The obvious purpose of the provocations by the Southern Command, he adds, is to create an incident that will give the command an excuse for a large-scale aggression. Dimas says that the Panamanians and the Panama Defense Forces, FDP, have shown great courage by not letting themselves be provoked by such actions.

Dimas explains that Cuban television news services were working on a special program using this footage; however, that given the "imminence of the U.S. aggression", it was decided to broadcast the images just as they are.

After Dimas' introduction, the program begins with narrated clips of several examples of "provocations" by U.S. troops in Panama. The footage shows U.S. troops as they surround buildings, ride in armored vehicles through various towns, stop people at the entrance to Fort Amador and at the Pan-American Highway, as well as shots of U.S. Cobra helicopters flying over buildings and other areas in Panama. Throughout the program, a title caption is shown at the beginning of each of the narrated clips that are being used as examples of U.S. "provocations".

Some of the clips included in the footage show: the detention of a U.S. Army vehicle near a market within Panamanian jurisdiction, detention of two U.S. vehicles with armed civilians in Curundu, detention of Hummer vehicles in Tocumen, and video of the closing of entry to Fort Amador, as well as shots of U.S. Cobra helicopters flying over an area in the canal area that, according to the narrator, has been returned to Panama. Other footage also includes U.S. troops in armored vehicles driving around the town of Gamboa; and another clip shows soldiers surrounding the Chilibre water plant.

The last clip shown is of FDP soldiers posted in various areas of the capital. The narrator praises the "professional and controlled manner" in which the FDP has resisted "the constant provocations of the U.S. Army against this nation." He adds that the FDP's resistance must not be misinterpreted as weakness but as caution to prevent the loss of civilian lives, as occurred in the Dominican Republic, and other areas that have been the "victims of U.S. armed invasions." The narrator concludes, "there must not be any doubt about the integrity of the character and decisiveness of our soldiers and people when it comes to giving their lives for Panama, in light of the way that U.S. troops have carried out their aggression which is to the point that, a human error could unleash a massacre."

The final caption on screen reads: This is filmed proof of some of the Yankee provocations in Panama. Draw your own conclusions. TV Cubana 1989.

TANA Head Charges U.S. To Attack Panama
FL2208140089 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] The democratic and revolutionary forces of Latin America and the Caribbean should get ready to defend Panama in the event of a U.S. attack. This was stated to PRENSA LATINA by Dr Guillermo Torrielo, president of the Anti-Imperialist Tribunal of Our America [TANA]. Torrielo charged that U.S. troops are preparing to intervene militarily in Panama, and warned that what is at stake is not only the sovereignty of the small country but that of the entire continent.

Moreover, in Caracas, Venezuelan General Elio Garcia Barrios, retired, who is the Venezuelan representative to the Organization of Military Men for Democracy, asserted that it is unusual that, faced with the flagrant attack of a hegemomic power, some Latin American governments have sided with those who subjugate and belittle us today.

Envoy Meets With Polish Democratic Party Leader
FL2208155089 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] In Warsaw, Democratic Party President Jerzy Jozwiak has met with Cuban Charge d'Affaires Alfredo Leon. They focused on the opening of new lines for the development of relations in various areas. According to an official communique, they talked about the sociopolitical situation in Poland and the state of economic, political, and cultural cooperation between Cuba and Poland.

Cinema Forum Protests 'Anti-Cuban' Television
FL2208160489 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] The participants of the Cinema in the Caribbean forum have unanimously agreed to strongly protest the violation of international agreements through the operation of an anti-Cuban television station beamed from the United States. They also say this is really an attack on the Caribbean people.

The forum met for 2 days in Cancun, Mexico as part of the discussions on theory promoted by the second international festival of culture in the Caribbean.

140 Internationalists Arrive From Angola

FL2208152889 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] A new group of Cuban internationalist combatants has arrived from the People's Republic of Angola. The group is composed of over 140 combatants, most of them young. They were received by Division General Fabian Escalante, first vice minister of the Interior Ministry, and Brigadier General Lorenzo Garcia Frias, from the Revolutionary Armed Forces.

Several of the combatants hold decorations such as the Antonio Maceo and Ignacio Agramonte medals. Others show the medal for the Defense of Cuito Cuanavale. All of them had on their uniforms the Cuba-People's Republic of Angola Victory medal, as an evident demonstration of fulfilled duty. This new group of internationalist combatants the fatherland receives will actively join the productive tasks of the country very soon.

Vilma Espin Grants Conference on FMC Anniversary

FL2308021189 Havana Television Cubana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Aug 89

[Text] During these past 30 years of building socialism, the Cuban woman, praised and dignified by the revolution, has been gradually taking the place that belongs to her in our society. On the occasion of the upcoming 29th anniversary of the Federation of Cuban Women [FMC], on 23 August, and of the imminent FMC congress, Vilma Espin, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee Politburo and FMC president, has granted a press conference. During the conference, progress made in the work done by women was discussed.

[Begin Espin recording] Along our path, we have found so many women who are disciplined and demand a lot of themselves. Each one of those women has served as an experience and a motive of great satisfaction for us. We have years of work ahead of us to attain equality for women; it is not easy. There are many tasks in which we have made great progress; but in this area, we still have steps to take. However, we must say that a lot has already been accomplished. Above all, an awareness of women has been raised among our people. Our people see prestige in our women, which makes us very satisfied. We are very satisfied with everything we have been able to achieve during all these years of work.

We are certain that during our congress, we will hear excellent proposals on each one of the subjects that will be discussed. We congratulate all of you for the work you have done in preparing the first phase of this congress. We are also certain that we will have a very enriching, enthusiastic, and profound congress which is what we need. [end recording]

Over 1,200 Youths Begin MININT Training

FL2208185789 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] More than 1,200 youths who will enter general military service among the ranks of the Interior Ministry [MININT] have officially begun their 45-day training period in Havana with a ceremony held at the Pedro Ortiz Cabrera noncommissioned officers' police school.

At the conclusion of this training period, these young people will be placed in different MININT units. Eight hundred of them will be assigned to National Revolutionary Police units and command centers, primarily to the regiment for the protection and security of diplomatic missions.

2 Arrested for Trafficking in Convertible Currency

FL2208154089 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 18 Aug 89

[Police report]

[Text] Once again the agents of domestic order have responded to the just demands of the people to confront with greater efficiency and revolutionary energy those individuals who are marginal elements of society and who attempt to mock revolutionary laws and those who represent them.

An example of this is the efficient work of combatants belonging to the 10th Municipal Unit of the National Revolutionary Police in Havana who detained citizens Carlos Fernandez Echeverria and Juan Carlos Fernandez Quintana, both residents of 258 16th Street between A and B Streets, Lawton neighborhood, in Diez de Octubre Municipality. The two men are accused of trafficking in convertible currency and of engaging in illicit economic activities.

The comrades of the Police Instruction Department of this Diez de Octubre unit, who are responsible for investigating and clarifying this criminal action, told us that the two men had been acting suspiciously for some time. Because of this, an inspection of their home was ordered. Authorities seized $979 and 7,289 Cuban pesos, as well as 79 pesos in change, in addition to a large number of different types and sizes of gold and silver jewelry. Authorities also confiscated two pieces of video equipment, two color television sets, three film rewinding machines, more than 300 video cassettes, recorders, and other valuable objects. The two men could not prove that they acquired this merchandise legally which shows that they have conducted activities with foreigners.

The accused are now being held as a precautionary measure [bajo medida cautelar] and as soon as the investigation concludes, they will be presented to the legal body that will hand down the appropriate sentence in accordance with the penal code in force for crimes involving the trafficking of convertible currency and illicit economic activities.

Commentary Notes Importance of Tourist Industry

FL2208174389 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] Cuba's tourism has the big potential to reach important places in the international market. The facts so demonstrate. The number of tourists visiting the country is increasing. This has motivated a preferential treatment in this field.

We insist that we are still not doing as much as we can regarding tourism. Regardless of the reason—as Comrade Fidel has pointed out—we often scare off tourists. Some people have the tendency of believing that the tourist market is guaranteed solely by alluding to some pleasant natural resources, our people's hospitality, and the safety a tourist can find anywhere in the country. This is important but is not enough.

As we noted here once before, tourism is a special kind of sector. If we have objective limitations in this area—as we indeed do—the smart thing is to compensate a little for our situation by improving our level of attention to tourists. Therefore, we need to make greater efforts in training the personnel capable of carrying out the task.

A person who does not have the ability to perform this work adequately needs to be moved elsewhere. If this is not done, it would be an unconscious conspiracy against the country's economy and, to a certain extent, against the country's image in the world. We should not forget that a tourist is also a source of advertising—the best one, perhaps.

We are interested in having a tourist visit us but we also want him to come back. The nation has invaluable potential in the tourist industry. In economic terms, tourism should represent an income of some 400 million [currency not specified] in foreign exchange during the first part of the next decade. We contribute to our development with the promotion of tourism. Our development is not based on how much we grow but what and how we grow. In spite of the estimates made by many, we should and can win.

Caribbean Affairs

CBU To Increase Regional TV Programs

FL2108211089 Bridgetown CANA in English 1341 GMT 19 Aug 89

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, August 19, CANA—The Caribbean Broadcasting Union (CBU) says it is aiming at having more Caribbean television programmes aired and at a greater information flow in the region. The CBU has entered its twentieth year with a pledge to increase the level of regionally produced television programmes and to intensify thee regional flow of information via its news exchange project," the organisation reported.

"As a start, the CBU has agreed to support a major project being funded by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to enable the Trinidad-based Television Production Establishment, Banyan, to produce a series of cultural-oriented programmes highlighting characteristics of various Caribbean countries," it said in a statement issued here.

The CBU is to pursue further programme exchanges similar to the ones initiated this year in which the Trinidad and Tobago television produced soap opera,"No Boundaries", and the Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation's situation comedy, "Oliver at Large," were finding popular acceptance by audiences in Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago and other Caribbean islands.

UNESCO is also assisting the organisation to develop the capability to reproduce and store material at its Barbados-based secretariat, and because of all these developments, the CBU is already beginning to think of a new home, since growth achieved during the past year is creating a demand for more operating space, the organisation said.

According to the CBU's secretary general, Terence Holder, "tremendous success" had been achieved by the television news exchange project funded by the West German-based Friedreich Ebert Stiftung (FES). He said it had now become a prime vehicle of regional information. He said the organisation is now discussing proposals from the FES to have the project extended, and they were working on plans together with the West German consultant, Michael Abend, to improve the content of both the daily news exchange among television systems, as well as, the weekly produced taped magazine programme, Caribscope.

A programme of training for personnel in participating systems is being mounted by the FES for September and October. Holder said the dream of more indigeously produced material on Caribbean television screens was fast becoming a reality. But he pointed out that one of

the challenges the CBU has to face in the future is making the entire project viable, so as to negate possibilities of its demise with the absence of international funding.

Other major decisions taken :by the organisation include:

—Steps to obtain the rights for producing, distributing, and broadcasting coverage of cricket tours in the Caribbean;

—Joint negotiations for rights to broadcast in the region next year's World Cup football and the 1992 Spain olympics;

—Negotiations for the rights to broadcast next year's Goodwill Games from Seattle, Washington;

—Mounting CBU teams for coverage of sports from international venues;

—Organising a meeting of broadcast executives to better determine and analyse the problems of broadcasting systems and to gear the CBU to service the needs of its members;

—Establishing even closer working relations with the Caribbean Institute of Mass Communication (Carimac) to cater for effective training of broadcast personnel in the region.

The organisation has also decided to co-operate fully with the Caribbean News Agency (CANA) in enhancing the coverage of regional events by radio and also in developing programmes for the radio arm of the electronic media.

Dominica

Government Creating Private Water Company

FL2308014589 Bridgetown CANA in English 1732 GMT 19 Aug 89

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Aug 19, CANA—Dominica's water supply service is to be privatized, minister of communications, works and housing, Alleyne Carbon, has reported. He says in the next two months the government should be tabling a bill in parliament to bring into force a private water company. Carbon noted that the working out of the equity of the company is one of the matters being completed before the project is taken to parliament.

From June 1, 1989, the management of the water services in Dominica was turned over to the newly formed Dominica Water and Sewerage Company Limited (DOWASCO) which is totally government owned.

Carbon and Attorney General Brian Alleyne said divestment of the shares would not occur in the immediate future. "All systems would have to be in proper working order before that's done. And where there is no system, we want to put a system in place," Carbon said.

Commenting on the taking over of sewerage system, Carbon said a study on the present system is being done now. He added that representatives of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) would be coming to Dominica next month to put together a timetable based on which a takeover date would be set.

Dominican Republic

New Health Secretary, AMD President To Meet

FL1808152089 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1134 GMT 18 Aug 89

[Text] The new Secretary of State for Public Health [Dr Rafael Gautreaux] and leaders of the Dominican Medical Association [AMD] will meet in the next few hours to try to find a solution to the crisis that would result in turning over the hospitals to the AMD doctors. Dr Claudio de los Santos, an aide to Dr Rafael Gautreaux, reported that he had called AMD President Dr Fidel Mejia yesterday and told him of the new public health secretary's intention to hold talks.

However, the spokesperson for the public health secretary did not give the time or place where the meeting was to be held. Dr Claudio de los Santos said that the meeting will take place today as soon as Dr Ney Arias Lora assumes his post as director of the Dominican Social Security Institute [IDSS]. The invitation was accepted by Dr Fidel Mejia, who had refused to talk with Dr Arias Lora.

Interviewed by Radio Mil Informando reporters, an AMD spokesperson said that the change of officials in the medical sector could clarify the situation which has caused problems in public hospitals for over a month. Dr Fidel Mejia said that the decision the AMD takes will depend on the flexibility the new public health secretary shows. The doctors who serve in the Public Health Secretariat and the IDSS have said they will return to the hospitals' emergency rooms on the condition that military and volunteer doctors, who have been there for over 4 weeks, are withdrawn.

Health Officials End General Strike

FL2208145089 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] A 43-day-old general strike by public health officials in the Dominican Republic has ended. Striking physicians agreed yesterday to begin formal negotiations on salary hikes. The agreement was reached following a 2-hour meeting yesterday [21 August] between government health officials and the heads of the Dominican Medical Association.

The health minister, Rafael Gautreaux, says the doctors should return to work today. Representatives of the 7,500 striking doctors say President Joaquin Balaguer will personally head the salary talks later this week. No date has been announced.

Interior Plans Crack Down on Illegal Arms

FL2208164089 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1125 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] Santiago—The secretary of state for interior and police has said in Santiago that his office will act swiftly against all those who illegally import firearms. Manuel de Jesus Estrada Medina said that the secretariat which he heads will use all its means and resources to control the illegal import of arms, which he said represents a danger to the population.

The interior and police secretary later told journalists in Santiago: We know that to attain positive results in this work, we will have to take drastic measures and we are willing to do so.

Estrada Medina referred to remarks made by [words indistinct] that President Joaquin Balaguer is not keeping him properly informed of what is going on in the country. In response, Secretary Estrada Medina told the Radio Mil Informando newsroom: I personally have been in the office of President Balaguer. I have been received by officials of the presidential palace and by the president himself.

Returning to the topic of the illegal possession of firearms, Estrada Medina said that his secretariat has given people owning weapons 2 weeks to get their documents in order.

Grenada

Bishop Murder Appeal Case Resumes

FL2108232089 Bridgetown CANA in English 0051 GMT 21 Aug 89

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Aug 20, CANA—Defense counsel in the Maurice Bishop murder appeal, Deland Harrison, has challenged the admissibility as evidence, the signed confession of his client, former Colonel Ewart Layne of the People's Revolutionary Army (PRA). This, and other confessions, after the holding of a "voir dire" (arguments in absence) were admitted by the trial judge, Justice Dennis Byron, as having been made voluntarily. Harrison questioned this. "The method of holding of voir dire relative to confessions allegedly made by accused persons was seriously impaired by grave errors," Harrison told the appeal court.

Layne is one of 17 persons convicted of the killing of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and others on October 19, 1983; and Layne's confession says that, at a certain stage on that day "the situation with the central committee members (of the then ruling party) was one of total paralysis." At that time, Layne was at Fort Fredrick with other members of the central committee, including former Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard and general of the PRA, Hudson Austin. About two miles away, Fort Rupert had been taken over by a large crowd which had freed Bishop from house arrest and Layne's confession says he received information as to what was happening at Fort Rupert. "We received a message that weapons were being distributed at Fort Rupert", the confession says, "and orders were issued by Maurice ... to eliminate the whole central committee ..."

Layne says he realised the central committee was "totally ineffective" and that it was "now a military matter." Austin, he says, was "paralyzed in this situation" and did not agree with what he (Layne) wanted to do but "he allowed me to have my way." "It was from there on I could say that I took over the situation completely," he says. Layne sent a detachment of soldiers to Fort Rupert, he says, with instructions to recapture the fort and, if there was any resistance, "they were to battle it out and the leaders were to be liquidated".

It was later reported to him by one of his officers that there had been a battle and Bishop and (Unison) Whiteman (one of Bishop's cabinet members) had been captured. "I told him he should liquidate them," the confession says. "Later he reported to me that the mission had been accomplished".

In the appeal court on Friday [18 Aug] Harrison said the prosecution must prove beyond reasonable doubt that a confession was made "without fear of oppression or hope of advantage." Layne had told the trial judge that he had been tortured, Harrison said, and the prison doctor testified that, shortly after the period when Layne said he had been tortured, he (the doctor) had found a bruise on Layne's abdomen. X-ray pictures revealed no internal injury and the doctor had concluded the injury was minor but Harrison argued the judge should have taken a more serious view of this than he did.

Reading from the rercord, Harrison said Layne had "challenged" the court to cross-examine witnesses on his behalf but the trial judge had not done so. President of the court Sir Frederick Smith reminded Harrison that the trial judge had given Layne every opportunity to cross-examiine the witnesses himself, but Layne had said he had no intention of participating in a "kangaroo court". "Apparently what Layne wanted to happen," Sir Frederick said, "is for the kangaroo judge to represent him in the kangaroo court".

The court will sit again on Monday [20 August].

Ian Ramsay, leader of the defense in the appeal told the court last Thursday [17 August] that the trial judge Byron, had misdirected the jury in his summing up. "The trial judge", he said, "had a very garbled approach in his directions to the jury".

Ramsay's comments referred to evidence given by a prosecution witness, Fabian Gabriel, relative to events on the day Bishop and others were lined up against a wal at Fort Rupert and shot. Gabriel had been present and said he had sent [as received] one of the accused, Calistus Bernard, take a piece of paper from his pocket and say it was an order from the central committee that Bishop and the others be executed.

The central committee, including Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard, his wife Phyllis, and general of the People's Revolutionary Army (PRA), (all of whom are among the condemned persons) were, at that time, at Fort Frederick some two miles away. Ramsay said Judge Byron did not make it clear to the jury that Gabriel's evidence was "hearsay" and could not be used to prove there was a conspiracy by the central committee to murder Bishop and the others who died with him. Only after the jury had reasonable evidence of the probability of a conspiracy could that "hearsay" evidence be used to show furtherance of the aim of the conspiracy, he said, but it could not be used to prove there was a conspiracy.

Haiti

Press Notes Bank Scandal, Avril Letter to Bush

FL2208183889 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 21 Aug 89

[Excerpts] A certain financial scandal at Sogebank has made the front page of two Haitian weeklies edited in the United States.

The Director of Sogebank Disappears With $3 Million, says HAITI-OBSERVATEUR's front page headline. The paper carries a very long article on the subject and says that Sogebank Director Alix Malebranche left his job taking a few million dollars with him as a guarantee for his old age.

HAITI EN MARCHE links the affair to trafficking in foreign currency, and carries the headline: Scandal at Sogebank—Scapegoat Alix Malebranche Flees. Marc Garcia's paper says that Malebranche has gone into exile following a power struggle between Sogebank and the military government, which is trying every way it can to ensure that it has a monopoly on all the foreign currency coming into Haiti. HAITI EN MARCHE explains further that Alix Malebranche arrived in Miami last Thursday with his wife, fleeing a situation that he no doubt felt was becoming dangerous for his own safety.

Incidentally, Sogebank's management denies all these reports, claiming that they are all erroneous, threatening to take legal action against the authors of the articles.

LE NOUVELLISTE, for its part, carries the text of Sogebank's denial on its front page. [passage omitted]

Elections Put Off Indefinitely—Avril Answers the U.S. Congress: Elections Are the Business of Haitians," reads a headline on the front page of HAITI EN MARCHE, based on an interview granted to a U.S. daily paper by Gen Avril. HAITI EN MARCHE says this is undoubtedly the first time Gen Prosper Avril has spoken his mind so explicitly. In the interview (?by) Frantz Israel, the general explains: My first priority is to put the Haitian masses to work and reorganize the Army. Thus, HAITI EN MARCHE draws the conclusion that the elections have been put off indefinitely.

Also in connection with elections, HAITI-OBSERVATEUR highlights a letter from Gen Avril to U.S. President George Bush. In this letter, the general insists on guarantees that Haiti's future elected president will keep him on as armed forces chief of staff [as heard]. According to American personalities who learned of this document, Prosper Avril highlighted the reforms he has undertaken in the Haitian military institution, and feels he is the best person to carry out other reforms that may turn out to be necessary.

The paper also says that Gen Avril has addressed another letter to the new American chief of staff, Gen Colin Powell, in order to get him to use his influence with George Bush in Avril's favor.

Lastly, in their latest issues, two papers, HAITI EN MARCHE and HAITI-PROGRES, note the repression that is sweeping down on peasant society. HAITI EN MARCHE speaks of the recent imprisonment in Cap-Haitien of Jean-Robert Lalanne and Patrick Casimir, two members of the People's National Assembly. [passage omitted] HAITI-PROGRES also highlights the intervention of human rights organizations which denounce the repression of the popular sector, as well as a petition in which 123 people demand reparations for Jean-Robert Lalanne and Patrick Casimir. [passage omitted]

Caricom Delegation on Official Visit

Leader Cenac Comments on Visit

FL1808150489 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Excerpts] A Caribbean Common Market [Caricom] delegation arrived in Haiti at approximately 1600 yesterday on a Trinidad and Tobago Airways flight. [passage omitted] The delegation was met at Mais Gate International Airport in Port-au-Prince by Foreign Minister Yvon Perrier and Information and Coordination Minister Mrs Rosemarie Nazon. During its 15-18 August visit to Haiti, the Caricom delegation is to talk to several Haitian Government officials and representatives of various Haitian sectors. [passage omitted]

At the diplomatic hall of the airport, Foreign Minister Perrier made a speech welcoming the delegation. St Lucian Foreign Minister Neville Cenac, who is heading

the delegation, also made a speech. He said he was very pleased to be visiting Haiti, where, he explained, he is to meet with various Haitian figures. We will have you listen to what Mr Cenac said, in Creole, yesterday afternoon at Mais Gate Airport.

[Begin Cenac recording] I wish to say right off that we have not come here to meddle in Haitian affairs. That would not be right. Each country has a right to do as it wants. We have come here at the invitation of the government to speak freely with all kinds of different people, who may speak to us frankly: people from the religious, political, and social sectors, and even government people. We hope to see how our visit can be a beginning. I am sure there has already been a beginning, but I mean a beginning within the framework of a good plan in keeping with the Haitian Constitution, which can give the country direction.

We are people who come from democratic countries. Haiti is [words indistinct]. We have a soft spot in our hearts for Haiti, believe me. That is is why we (?of) four different Caricom institutions—institutions involved with agriculture, health, labor [preceding word in English] relations, and others—are (?in Haiti). Do you understand?

We want to see peace and prosperity in Haiti. I reiterate that we have not come to (?meddle in) anything. We have come to take a look so that we can report back to the others. There are 13 Caribbean governments, you see. If you look at the entire world, you see that Haiti and the other Caribbean countries are true brothers. Do you understand? Thus, this makes me very, very happy [preceding word in English]. [end recording]

Finally, the St Lucian official stressed that this visit is a good (?step) toward bringing Haiti closer to the other Caribbean countries. He expressed the hope that a fresh breeze of democracy will sweep over Haiti. [passage omitted]

Dinner Held for Visitors

FL1908005289 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 18 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Haitian Foreign Minister Yvon Perrier last night hosted a dinner at the Kinam [Hotel's] restaurant in honor of the Caricom representatives on an official visit to Haiti since 15 August. Representatives of the different Haitian ministries, members of accredited diplomatic missions, and several political leaders also attended the dinner. [passage omitted]

One of the political leaders present at the gathering was interviewed by our reporter Jean-Marie Ferrari.

[Begin unidentified political leader recording] I found the visit rather positive. [passage omitted] I myself was among a group of people the delegation received yesterday afternoon. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Hold News Conference

FL1908134089 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1230 GMT 19 Aug 89

[Text] Foreign ministers from four Caricom [Caribbean Common Market] countries say elections should be held in Haiti by the end of next year.

The four held a news conference yesterday [18 August] to report on their findings during a 3-day visit to Haiti. They indicate elections are not feasible at the end of this year as several political leaders have demanded.

The foreign ministers had no comment on the human right situation in Haiti.

Conacom Holds Regional Congress in North

FL2208175889 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 21 Aug 89

[Text] After holding a congress in the Artibonite, the National Committee of the Congress of Democratic Movements, Conacom, held another congress in northern Haiti on 12 and 13 August. This congress was attended by people from Acul du Nord, Borgne, Limbe, Pilate, and Plaisance.

The resolutions issued are divided into three parts: one part on the problems of northern Haiti in particular and on Haiti in general, another on the elections to be held in Haiti, and the third on Conacom.

Regarding the problems of northern Haiti in particular and the rest of Haiti in general, they declared that the government lands should serve the peasants. For this reason, they are not in favor of the provisional government's decision to give Plantation Dauphin to crooked foreigners.

They say, further: We declare before the nation that we are not in favor of the way the government wants to handle the matter of exploiting the gold mines in the (Camp Coq) area. We say that government representatives must come and sit down and talk with the residents of (Camp Coq) and the surrounding areas, so that the population can know under what conditions the government and the (?companies) are going to take the gold, how this gold is going to be useful to the people in the area and in all of Haiti because we do not want what happened with the Sedren copper mines in Gonaives or the aluminum mines in Miragoane to happen again.

We ask the government to take measures to repair National Highway No 1, particularly the portion between Gonaives and Cap-Haitien; and to build roads in the hinterlands, so that the communal sections can communicate with the towns without a hassle. We ask that there be an end to murder, repression, and arbitrary arrests throughout Haiti and particularly in the communal sections.

Also, the Army leaders must order the section chiefs to stop preventing people from holding meetings. There must be good judges in the courts, proper schools, drinking water, dispensaries, electricity, and telephone lines everywhere. Erosion, which has almost done away with the lands in the hills, must be fought. We ask the government to take urgent measures to settle these matters.

Peasants must be able to borrow money under good terms, so that they can work to change their lives. The price of coffee must stop dropping, because it is one of our means of livelihood, in the hills. The price of merchandise must drop, so that we can survive. Small peasant farmers must be able to obtain a birth certificate for free. Citizens' taxes must serve the nation. Also, the tax on funerals and the taxes the section chiefs make poor people pay for writing up formal reports of events must be done away with.

We ask that the (?ODN) [expansion unknown] do its job properly, in the north; and we declare that we need proper technicians to come out and work in the towns and communal sections.

In a later newscast, we will come back to the other two parts: the elections to be held in Haiti and on Conacom.

Confederation of Workers Holds News Conference

FL2208162889 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Excerpts] The Confederation of Haitian Workers [CTH], formerly known as Autonomous Organization of Haitian Workers affiliated with the Latin American Central Organization of Workers [CATH/CLAT], held its first news conference yesterday to make public the decisions reached at its first congress held last weekend. We had a reporter there.

[Unidentified reporter] CTH, formerly called CATH/CLAT, held its first news conference this morning at its headquarters on Rue des Miracles [as heard]. During the news conference, after (Louis Octave Dorvilliers) [not further identified] made his presentation, Germain Jean-Francois [a founding member of CATH/CLAT] spoke of the association's 30 years of unionism, from its beginning to the time it became the CTH. [passage omitted]

After the union federation's history was traced, another speaker reported on the work of the first CATH/CLAT congress held 10-13 August. At this congress, CATH/CLAT changed its name to CTH, Confederation of Haitian Workers.

The CTH has a 25-member committee. Six people constitute the CTH's executive bureau. The other 19 are simply members. Unfortunately, we do not have the list of the people who make up the CTH's federal executive committee.

The CTH secretary general [Jean-Claude Lebrun] then presented to the press the resolutions ensuing from the first congress. [passage omitted]

The CTH denounced the irresponsibility of the government and the national private sector in the light of the economic crisis and the deteriorating social conditions of the workers and the Haitian masses. [passage omitted] CTH also demanded basic health care for all Haitians.

In solidarity with the peasants, the CTH denounced the military government's hasty decision to distribute alleged available and arable land to small peasant farmers.

CTH condemned all maneuvers that the government-power class is applying to prolong indefinitely a transition in Haiti.

CTH denounced the slowness of the electoral process and demanded that an election calender be published quickly, so that honest, unfettered, democratic elections can be held within a reasonable length of time.

Finally, the CTH condemned all forms of repression, arbitrary arrests, murders, insecurity, unemployment, low wages, and other problems. [passage omitted]

PDCH Official Comments on CEP, Article 291

FL2208170189 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 18 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Mr Menard (Charles-Roberts), second secretary general of the Haitian Christian Democratic Party [PDCH] granted us an interview after the PDCH issued a press release on the Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] and on the future elections in Haiti. Mr (Charles-Roberts) said the CEP is going around in circles, and that it will be difficult for the CEP to break the vicious circle. He said the constitution provides for a provisional electoral council, whereas the 23 February decree—after the referendum—creates a permanent electoral council. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] [Passage omitted] How do you interpret this touring of the provinces by the CEP?

[(Charles-Roberts)] Purely and simply as dilatory tactics. With salaries of $4,000 per month, they feel they are in good shape. They would like to comfortably spend as much time as possible in power in the way the government would like—because neither these men nor the government intend to hold elections.

They have taken to touring the Republic so that people won't say that they aren't doing anything about the country.

But who do they meet all over the country? Do you really think they are meeting with the Haitian people? They (?merely) meet with a few people who support them in regard to the damage they are doing to the country, so they can sit down and...[changes thought] Take a good look at what their major concerns are: merely how to organize elections and when people would like elections held. They are not concerned about organizing elections the way the Constitution stipulates, but rather in their own way. They have already declared that it is not up to them to apply Article 291. As long as Article 291 is not applied to elections, there will be a constitutional vacuum. This means that a permanent electoral council is nowhere near possible yet! It was the will of the constitutional assembly and the Haitian people that a permanent electoral council be formed only (?after) an election was held under the banner of Article 291. This constitutes a 10 year sentence, a judgment handed down by the Haitian people against all the barons of Duvalierism. [end recording]

Education, Literacy Office Established

FL2208181989 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 21 Aug 89

[Excerpts] A Haitian military government decree dated 31 July 1989 has created the National Office for Community Education and Adult Literacy, (ONECA). [passage omitted]

By military government decree dated 18 August 1989, Mr (Andre B. Limontas) has been appointed executive director of (ONECA). In order to complete (ONECA's) staff, by presidential commission, the following appointments were made on 18 August 1989:

Mr Emmanuel Nazon has been appointed technical advisor to (ONECA's) executive director.

Mr Vernet Larose has been appointed director of operations. Mrs Paulette (Macena) has been appointed administrative director. [passage omitted]

Jamaica

Manley Wants UN To Form Antidrug Strike Force

FL1908125389 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 19 Aug 89

[Text] Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley is calling on the United Nations to develop an anti-drug strike force. A strike force would share intelligence and mount paramilitary attacks against drug traffickers. Mr Manley told a news conference in New York yesterday that the drug problem is the largest international criminal conspiracy the world has ever seen.

Further on Call for Strike Force

FL2108200589 Bridgetown CANA in English 1904 GMT 19 Aug 89

[Text] New York, August 19, CANA—Ruling out any unilateral action by the international strike force which it is proposing to fight the drug war, Jamaica wants the armed units to restrict their operations to those countries which invite them to join the fight on their soil.

Jamaica's Prime Minister Michael Manely, the driving force behind the idea of the international force, said that it should function under an international authority, such as the United Nations, and must only enter a sovereign nation after receiving an invitation to do so.

"Preciwsely what we are proposing is not that the United States send troops anywhere but that we create a UN authority in the way that we do with the peace-keeping force," Manley told reporters. "No country has ever quarrelled with the thought of a UN sponsored peacekeeping force coming to help with some problem because that is understood to act under international authority, not in response to national sovereignty."

Manley said that Venezuela, for instance, had already thrown its support behind Jamaica's idea for the international strike force and the ways in which it should function. Venezuela's backing, he added, had come after Caricom [Caribbean Common Market] nations had embraced the proposal as an effective way to deal with the growing menace of international drug trafficking.

Manley sought to justify the creation of the force by contending that drug traffickers had grown so powerful that they were conducting "guerrilla warfare" against governments fighting their operations. For example, they were able to defeat the Colombian Army in battles against narcotics operations, Manely said. The drug dealers' success against the Colombian Army, he added, came after they formed themselves into cartels.

"What has happened is that substantial operating understandings have arisen between the different groups that traditionally acted alone," he added. It must be of interest that they are now so sophisticated and understand marketing so well that they shouldn't try to increase supply into the U.S. just now but divert supply to Europe and Britain." That was why Britain was for the first time feeling the assault of cocaine and crack, he added. Previously, the United Kingdom only had to worry about heroin, said Manley.

He said that Jamaica would be introducing a proposal in the UN later this year calling for the establishment of the international authority to oversee the operations of the strike force.

Manley Advocates Caribbean Court of Appeal
FL2108201589 Bridgetown CANA in English 1744 GMT 19 Aug 89

[Text] New York, August 19, CANA—Recent decisions by the Privy Council to uphold appeals lodged by 10 Jamaicans who were convicted of murder are unlikely to speed up the establishment of a Caribbean court of appeal, says Jamaica's Prime Minister Michael Manley, an advocate of such a court.

Speaking in New York, Manley said that far from speeding up the launching of the court, the action of the Privy Council in citing "judicial failure" in Jamaica could be used as an argument against the Caribbean court.

"The weaknesses that have shown up and as revealed by the Privy Council are more an argument against a Caribbean court of appeal because they are calling into question the level of judicial competence," said Manley. "But we stand by the Caribbean court of appeal idea. We must be able to deal with our legal problems ourselves and learn to do better."

In a decision last month, the Privy Council upheld the appeals of five Jamaicans convicted of murder on the grounds that the trial judges had erred by not giving proper warnings, failures which resulted in people being wrongfully sentenced to death.

The law lords, as the privy councillors are called, warned the Jamaican courts that when it came to the issue of identity in "fleeting glance" conditions "a significant failure to follow the guidelines ...will cause the conviction to be quashed because it will have resulted in a substantial miscarriage of justice."

Since the Privy Council action became known, some people in Jamaica have criticised the decision saying it pointed up the need for the Caribbean to have its own court of last resort, meaning a Caribbean court of appeal. But Manley disagreed, contending that the need for a Caribbean court had been established long before the Privy Council action.

El Salvador

Cristiani on Dialogue Commission, War Wounded

PA2208220489 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 21 Aug 89

[Report on interview with President Alfredo Cristiani by unidentified reporters after his inauguration of the 19th Regional Meeting of Central American Construction Chambers in San Salvador on 20 August—passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Text] [Cristiani] "We would like the dialogue to begin as soon as possible. A commission will be created this week and after having met with the political parties, I believe that the commission will be able to offer something specific, particularly to the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] in order to begin the process as soon as possible."

[Reporter] "How long will it take to form the commission and begin the dialogue process?"

[Cristiani] "The idea is to have representatives from each one of the three government branches. It could take a few days to establish a method for selecting representatives from the Legislative and Judicial Branches to the commission. However, there has been progress in our talks with both branches, and I expect the commission to be completed in the next few days."

[Reporter] "Will the church participate in the dialogue through a commission aside from the one to be created by the government?"

[Cristiani] "I think that the church can play different roles. Obviously, I believe that it is not natural for the Catholic Church to take part in or create a political commission, as that is not it's role. We are convinced that the church can play a very important role—parallel and complementary—in the dialogue process. No one has disregarded the role that the church can play. Some have even said that we are trying to keep the church away from the dialogue, which is not true at all. We simply believe that it is not proper for the church to participate in a political commission."

Cristiani also referred to the occupation of the cathedral by a group of FMLN war wounded. He said that the church will have to decide what will be done with that group of former guerrillas. Regarding the departure of the war wounded, Cristiani said that this topic should be discussed between the government and the rebels.

[Cristiani] "The subject of war wounded should be on the agenda of the dialogue process. We are willing to discuss this matter in an effort to facilitate a cease-fire."

[Reporter] Will the government order the dislodgement of the cathedral, or will it allow those who have occupied it to remain there?

[Cristiani] No, we are not going to order a dislodgement. I believe that the archbishop of San Salvador will take care of that problem, that he will talk to them. I believe that at this time the subject of the war wounded should be among the topics of discussion in the dialogue."

Army-Guerrilla Skirmishes Leave 92 Casualties

PA2208232289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2145 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] San Salvador, 22 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—Reports from both the Army and the rebels have revealed that recent skirmishes in various parts of the country have resulted in a total of 92 casualties among soldiers and guerrillas.

The Armed Forces reported that they had inflicted 18 casualties on the guerrillas and admitted that they had sustained 14 casualties among military ranks in fighting on Monday in La Union, Morazan (in the eastern part of the country), and the strife-torn Chalatenango Department, in northern El Salvador.

The Salvadoran guerrillas, for their part, said today that they had either killed or wounded 60 soldiers in several confrontations, to protest the increase in transportation fares and electricity rates.

Radio Farabundo Marti, one of the guerrillas' clandestine stations, also claimed that the rebels damaged four Army helicopters.

The station said that the fighting is part of the guerrillas' military campaign "against the increase in fares and against the fascist government of the Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA)."

According to the Armed Forces Press Committee, 5 guerrillas were killed and 13 others injured in skirmishes with government troops in the towns of Lislique, Osicala, Tejutla, and La Palma. The Army admitted to 2 soldiers being killed and 12 being wounded in this fighting.

In another area, a powerful bomb today caused property damage in the offices of the General Directorate of Land Transportation, located in the southern part of San Salvador. Military spokesmen blamed urban guerrillas for the attack, which caused no casualties.

In a communique distributed to local radio stations, the urban guerrillas warned transportation entrepreneurs that they should return to the former fare ($0.06) or "the buses will continue to be military targets."

Some bus lines, which run from the city of Zacatecoluca, in La Paz Department in southern El Salvador, to the capital, have decided to revoke the increased rate and return to the former fare.

Urban guerrillas dynamited four buses on Monday night in the southern part of San Salvador, and shot and wounded one person, according to military reports. Over the past 2 weeks, the guerrillas have destroyed over 40 public transportation vehicles.

Nicaragua

President Ortega on Relations With USSR

PA2208193389 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1635 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Speech by President Daniel Ortega inaugurating the Oscar Benavides Lanuza transmitter facility of La Voz de Nicaragua (The Voice of Nicaragua) radio in Esteli on 22 August—live]

[Text] Good morning, Nicaraguan brothers; good morning to our brothers in the northern part of our country: in Esteli, Jinotega, Matagalpa, Madriz, and Segovia. You have just heard the Soviet Ambassador to Nicaragua, Comrade Valeiy Nikolayenko, who stressed the excellent relations that exist between Nicaragua and the USSR. The relations between the USSR and the people of Nicaragua have served to help Nicaragua emerge from the backwardness and underdevelopment the capitalist and imperialist oppression left us with in the past.

Soviet cooperation and support to Nicaragua has included many phases. Soviet aid has been a bulwark of our country's defense in many ways, such as in the economy and military. The USSR has been helping the Nicaraguan people defend themselves over the past 10 years. Soviet cooperation has also been felt in the field of communications. That is why we are here today, inaugurating these transmitters, which are the result of Soviet cooperation with Nicaragua. These transmitters allow us more direct and rapid access to a greater sector of our population, which previously had been excluded from radio coverage because of the country's limitations at the time the revolution came to power and by the apathetic attitude of the capitalists, the rich, and the imperialists toward these segments of the population.

Now we can more easily reach the people. The radio is also a powerful tool for entertainment, for transmitting constructive and educational material, or for sending family messages. In other words, radio has many uses: to reach men, the family, or the people.

Today, 22 August, we are commemorating one more anniversary of the assault on the palace—when the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] took over the National Palace at the time of Somoza—on 22 August 1978. This assault was an overwhelming blow to the Somozist dictatorship. We are also commemorating the 10th anniversary of La Voz de Nicaragua and throughout the current year we are celebrating the 10th anniversary of the revolution. We are today inaugurating this facility within the spirit of all these anniversaries. Nicaraguan brothers, we bring to you this message of solidarity because this station shows once more what international solidarity is like—what Soviet solidarity with the Nicaraguan people is like. This exemplary solidarity should be closely examined by the countries of the north.

Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev challenged the countries of the north—the rich countries—to change their policies toward underdeveloped countries, developing countries, and Third World countries. This challenge still stands. We shall see what countries are willing to take up this challenge and get the rich nations to compete with one another in terms of which countries can do the most to assist impoverished countries. The USSR has given exemplary assistance to Nicaragua by helping Nicaragua emerge from backwardness and underdevelopment. These kinds of Soviet contributions should also be made by the United States to Latin American countries, Nicaragua in particular. Big-stick policies and policies of aggression, state terrorism, and war should be converted into policies of peace—in other words, policies of cooperation to help poor countries emerge.

We are happy to be here in Esteli this morning, celebrating the 11th anniversary of the palace assault, the 10th anniversary of La Voz de Nicaragua, the 10th anniversary of the Sandinist people's revolution, and reaching by radio the peasants, workers, and residents of Jinotega, Matagalpa, Nueva Segovia, Madriz, and Esteli. This enormous working population of producers, farmers, farm hands, workers, and artists have been defending the revolution over the years in some of the harshest areas—the war zones. These are war zones because of their proximity to the Honduran border. I also want to take this opportunity to send a message to the contras—to the Nicaraguans involved in couterrevolutionary activities in Nicaraguan territory and also in Honduras.

This station can also be heard in Honduras, and it is important that you realize this. My message to those of you in Honduras is that you may return to Nicaragua; you may demobilize and accept the peace plan. You will not be jailed and you will not be tried. The Nicaraguan people are giving you the opportunity to rejoin Nicaraguan society as described in the Tela agreements signed by the Central American presidents on 7 August.

We also tell those Nicaraguans involved directly or indirectly in counterrevolutionary activities that this is the moment to contact the peace commissions, to contact Sandinist People's Army troops, and the Interior Ministry, because these institutions have an extended hand to facilitate their acceptance of the peace process, their demobilization, and to allow them to rejoin a family life that will allow them to start producing and to keep them from being used as an instrument of death.

Brother Nicaraguans, the time has come for peace, and we are obligated to work so that peace is total and definite. We must make sure that we are not forced to face a bigger confrontation to end this very cruel war that has been imposed upon us by U.S. policies.

I salute all Nicaraguan brothers who are listening and in particular the Nicarguan brothers in the north. This morning we shall also be meeting cooperative workers here in Esteli and Matagalpa because this great task can only be assumed by us. Besides defending the revolution with our weapons—and we continue to do so—we also must defend the revolution with production. The cooperative movement is very important to guarantee the economic, social, and political future of the Sandinist people's revolution.

Thank you Nicaraguan brothers, and thank you Soviet brothers, who once more have shown your solidarity with us through a project such as this one—where we have seen not only Soviet technicians but Soviet investments as well. This Soviet transmitter gives life to this facility and allows us to reach you, Nicaraguan brothers. Many thanks.

Ortega Releases 32 'Counterrevolutionary' Peasants

PA2208223089 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 2135 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] This is an urgent report from Esteli: Daniel Ortega Saavedra, president of the Republic and commander of the revolution, has announced the release of 32 peasants who had been held prisoners for counterrevolutionary activities.

A total of 32 peasants from various municipalities in Region 1 who had been held prisoners for having participated in counterrevolutionary activities were released this afternoon by President Daniel Ortega after he closed a regional [word indistinct] cooperatives' assembly. The assembly was held at the Esteli [word indistinct] Coliseum where President Ortega delivered the 32 peasants to Daniel Nunez, national president of UNAG [National Association of Farmers and Cattlemen].

The released prisoners are Dionisio Chavez Vasquez, Juan de Dios Figueroa, Lino Gonzalez Quintero, Hipolito Lago Flores, Roberto Lago Rodriguez, (Pablo Lopez Basiario), Luis Manuel Lopez, (Domitilo Chavarria), Ignacio Perez Ortiz, Manuel Antonio Rivas, Nestor Porfirio Rodriguez, Jose Tablada, Jose Rodriguez Rios, (Fayaco Ramiro Zeledon). Also released were Miguel Ruiz Farias, Jose Sanchez Garcia, Celso Vasquez Castro, Ambrosio Bustamante Perez, Gregorio Alfaro Carrasco, (Alejo Torasca Perez), (Fermin Tercero Espinosa), (Edgar Umana Calderon), Ramiro Zenteno Murcia, Rigoberto Moncada, Apolinar Altamirano, Gregorio de Jesus Diaz, (Pedro Antonio Viquez), Luis Lopez Portillo, Simeon Alvarez Zenteno, Adalberto Ponce Rodriguez, Francisco Vilchez, and Santos Agustin Vasquez.

Interior Minister on Counterrevolutionaries

PA2208220589 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1759 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Statement by Interior Minister Tomas Borge on 22 August in Managua at a meeting with International and National Red Cross delegates; broadcast in progress—recorded]

[Text] The list requested by UNAG [National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen] will be delivered on 3 September in order to make a decision about the 1,440 counterrevolutionary prisoners. I want to stress that of the total of 7,003 prisoners there are in the country, 4,182 are being prosecuted, excuse me, they have been sentenced by the courts, while 2,821 are being prosecuted.

Throughout most of Latin America—and Nicaragua is no exception—the legal proceedings of prisoners is slow. So therefore, there are 2,821 people who will remain in prison several months before going to trial. Of the total 7,003, 6,767 are men and 236 are women. Out of these women, there are 15 counterrevolutionaries, 219 are common prisoners, and 2 are former soldiers. We also have the statistics on the prisoners according to the region where they are and the category to which they belong, such as common, former military, former National Guards. There is only one in the South Atlantic region. The remainder are in Managua.

In the state security operation jails—so much is said that these jails are mysterious or secret—we have even authorized the International Red Cross to visit these provisional centers of detention and interrogation. The law authorizes state security to hold a person for a certain number of days in order to conduct investigations into counterrevolutionary activities. There are currently 15 prisoners in operations jails throughout the country.

We also have the names of the prisoners being held in state security operation jails. In Region 1, there are four who are being turned over to the Attorney General's Office. We have their names, and if you are interested in learning who they are, we are not keeping their names a secret. In Region 2, there are seven; in Region 5, there are [words indistinct] or were they released? When? How many? [Borge asks questions to unidentified person and answers are indistinct] So then, this means there are none in Region 6, because they were released yesterday. They were not exactly released, but rather, they were turned over to the Attorney General's Office. Therefore, there is a total of 15 prisoners in the state security operations jails. A figure much higher than the actual figure is constantly being repeated over and over again.

Two years ago, the International Red Cross counted the prisoners, and that report was made public to the media.

I recall that during a speech at a penitentiary, I pointed out that, at that time, the enemy's media and little man Lino Hernandez [executive secretary of the Permanent Committee for the Defense of Human Rights, CPDH] were claiming that there were 15,000 political prisoners in Nicaragua. On other occasions they claimed that there were 10,000; and yet on other occasions, when they were more generous, claimed 8,500 political prisoners.

By our request, the International Red Cross counted them one by one, and issued an official document stating that there were 1,832 former national guardsmen and 1,532 counterrevolutionaries at that time. As is known, all but 39 of those 1,832 former guardsmen were released in keeping with a government order and in fulfillment of commitments we have acquired at various international meetings.

There were just over 3,000 prisoners in all, including former guardsmen and counterrevolutionaries, at that time. I had mentioned the number of prisoners, but they continued to insist on this issue as if nothing had ever been said about this; as if the International Red Cross did not exist; as if its figures were absolutely unreliable.

Therefore, I bet—and I won this bet—that in the next few days after the International Red Cross revealed its figures—in fact, that in less than 1 week—they would again claim that there were 15,000 counterrevolutionary prisoners in Nicaragua. They actually did just that. In other words, they were claiming a much higher figure than the actual number of prisoners in Nicaragua.

This CPDH headed by little man Lino Hernandez is a CIA branch in Nicaragua. It is everything but a human rights commission, because in practice, it is not at all concerned about individual rights and much less about collective human rights. What human rights violation is more terrible and serious than war? Nevertheless, this so-called human rights committee has never condemned this unjustified and abominable aggression against our country, which is the most serious human rights violation in Nicaragua ever.

There are other human rights violations in the world. We have said this on other occasions. Illiteracy is a human rights violation. Is that not true, Doctor? [Unidentified female speaker answers yes] Gastroenteritis, which is decimating Latin American children, is also a human rights violation, because they are receiving no medical assistance. Amid our poverty, we have at least lowered the mortality and morbidity rates.

However, these gentlemen are referring to individual human rights, that is, the mistreatment of prisoners. We have even been honest enough to admit that there have been isolated cases of human rights violations in Nicaragua and that the revolution has punished such violators in Matagalpa, Jinotega, and the Atlantic Coast area. It is no coincidence that about 1,000 former Army and Interior Ministry members have been detained for various reasons, including crimes against the victims' dignity and physical well-being.

We ask: What is the aim of all this? We have not only invited the International Red Cross. We also told our comrades: Invite Americas Watch, Amnesty International, the OAS Human Rights Commission, and all other international human rights organization to visit the country's jails to conduct a census. We have not one objection, because we are the cleanest country in this regard; because no Latin American country—and I believe no other country—is as open as we are as to invite all existing human rights organizations to come to Nicaragua to confirm that the gross, slanderous, and criminal statements of little man Lino Hernandez and his CIA-paid gang are unfounded.

I think it is time to uncover this organization, a political organization that wants to discredit the revolution.

I was in Europe recently, and in the FRG, I was given erroneous figures, not the real ones, but the ones submitted by the young gentleman Lino Hernandez. However, after the Americas Watch, [name indistinct], and the International Red Cross count the prisoners, it will be confirmed that the figures we have given are real. Therefore, if these international organizations investigate this matter in depth, and confirm that there are currently more than 1,500 contras under arrest in this country—this is an approximate figure as there are currently a little over 1,400 which could increase or decrease—I am willing to change my name. I will give up my name, and instead I will use any pseudonym such as Roque Santeiro or whatever [crowd laughs]. On the other hand, if there are no more than 1,500 prisoners, the young gentleman Lino Hernandez should also also change his name out of shame and call himself Mr Malta.

This man—Lino Hernandez—has been an accomplice who has helped criminals escape. For example—I will only mention one case—Erasmo Antonio Baltodano, from Rivas, who was a National Guard member in 1969, who remained loyal to that institution till the end, as part of the repressive organization called the EEBI [Infantry Basic Training School] was judged and sentenced to 30 years in jail under the charges of association to commit a crime and actions against international order. As part of his penal rehabilitation he was paroled; he was allowed to go home every 4 weeks. On one of those occasions—on 8 January 1988—he was given permission to go home and he was supposed to return to the jail on 11 January. This man— Baltodano—met with Lino Hernandez, who suggested that he not return to the jail where we, as part of the rehabilitation program allowed many prisoners—even those sentenced to 30 years—to go home. Baltodano was offered help in transferring to Honduran territory to join the contras. That was what Lino Hernandez offered him, using Marta Patricia Baltodano as the channel for this criminal action. Baltodano accepted. That same day, at 1900, a member of the commission

headed by young gentleman Malta, I mean young gentleman Hernandez, Lino Hernandez' driver drove Baltodano to the border, near the Las Manos border post, where he crossed into Honduras illegally.

I am talking about a crime committed by Lino Hernandez. Prior to Baltodano's departure, Lino Hernandez gave him 60,000 cordobas, and a call card to contact others ...[changes thought] Marta Patricia Baltodano. He was forced to sign a distorted statement saying that he voluntarily and spontaneously contacted Roberto Silva Beltran, member of the Honduran Human Rights Commission. This statement was published in LA PRENSA on 2 February 1982 [date as heard]. However, Baltodano—Erasmo Antonio Baltodano—was hired as a state security agent. I understand that he is no longer a state security agent, that he resigned, and that is why I can mention this.

That is why we included him in the pardon. He received a pardon. He is in Nicaragua, free. Baltodono accepted the amnesty decree in August 1988, after spending 6 months with counterrevolutionaries in the border area, following Lino Hernandez' orders.

LA PRENSA's 2 February news report on this individual Erasmo Baltodano is confusing. It reads: Prisoner says his jailers (?held him at gunpoint). We allowed him to go home every 4 weeks. And so, I am saying this by way of example, because I have other things to say to this man. I want all the newspapers of the world to print whatever this man --I mean young gentleman Lino Hernandez—says. All over the world people think there are 6,000 counterrevolutionary prisoners. Our denials—if the the major news media and newspapers carry them—go on the classified ads section. And the truth is.... [speech interrupted by announcer]

UN Commissioner Repatriates 80 Nicaraguans

PA2008142889 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Aug 89

[Text] Eighty Nicaraguans living in Costa Rica were repatriated yesterday by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR]. The group of repatriated Nicaraguans, which included 9 children and 20 women, arrived at the Penas Blancas border post in two buses and were received by UNHCR representative Francisco Narbona. Twenty-one additional Nicaraguans—17 from Honduras and 4 from Guatemala—will be repatriated today.

Minister Discusses Government Economic Policies

PA2008170989 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Aug 89

[Text] Luis Carrion Cruz, minister of economy, industry, and commerce, has said that the state enterprises have no contact with customers and, therefore, continue offering products the people do not want. The state enterprises should meet their commercial and political goals, he added.

Carrion, member of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] National Directorate, explained that the economic changes that have been made in the country will not be done away with and that prices will continue to be adjusted based on the cordoba-U.S. dollar exchange rate. Minister Carrion Cruz conceded that the economic measures have reduced employment and economic activity, but he said they have had positive results also since they have forced all enterprises to better use their existing resources.

Carrion stressed that the Nicaraguan Government will not make any changes in economic policy for political purposes prior to the elections, as is done in other Latin American countries. Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrion Cruz added that the exchange rate will continue to fluctuate. All available resources will be geared toward production for internal consumption and export purposes, and loans for commercial activities will not be granted for some time, Carrion emphasized. The minister demanded greater efficiency from workers and enterprise directors.

[Begin Carrion Cruz recording] The government wants to be very clear about this. The economic policy will not be manipulated for political purposes, that is, for the elections. In other words, we are not going to loosen up so that some more people will vote for the FSLN. We are not going to move from the course of action we have outlined in our economic policy. It would be very irresponsible on our part if we did that. It is very common practice in other Latin American countries that when elections are coming up, the ruling political parties start squandering the resources in order to gain a few votes. Later on, that government finds itself in a chaotic situation that is a lot worse than what they had before. We are not going to do that.

The elections will be the time for us to choose between the past or the future; a time to choose between the revolution or the counterrevolution; between defending the achievements of the last 10 years—development and improvements—or eliminating all these achievements. Support for the FSLN must be stronger than a temporary salary increase, or something similar to that, which, after all, are mere illusions. We are going to maintain the policy we have been following and we are going to defeat the enemy, the rightist forces, and the counterrevolution. [end recording]

More From Carrion on Economy

PA2208023389 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 21 Aug 89

[Text] Luis Carrion Cruz, minister of economy, industry, and commerce, has said that inflation, the trade deficit, the effects of the war on the economy, the U.S. embargo, and the departure of technicians and professionals are the most decisive factors causing the economic crisis with which the country is currently afflicted.

Asked by VISTAZO ECONOMICO to list the country's main economic problem in priority order, Carrion said that although it is difficult to make an exact list of problems by order of priority, the economic program has revealed that inflation is the greatest difficulty that Nicaragua is facing.

Inflation is only a symptom of deeper problems, Carrion said. He added that nevertheless, it distorts all economic relations and makes it impossible to attack the main problems. In addition, we are faced with serious structural problems that have been accumulating throughout the years of aggression and economic embargo.

I am going to mention some problems, not necessarily in priority order, Carrion said. We have a huge trade deficit. This means that the country has to receive financing to cover the difference between its imports and its exports.

After the trade deficit, which is one of the serious problems facing the country, Carrion listed another, no less important problem—the fact that we inherited a productive structure that is obsolete, especially in the industrial sector, added to a great decline in available skilled human resources.

In closing, Commander Luis Carrion mentioned something that is vital for economic recovery—national agreement [concertacion]. He said: I would say that there is no major problem in the industrial sector. Communication with the private industrial sector is good; in general, the policies established by the MEIC [Ministry of Economy, Industry, and Commerce] have been well received and are being implemented. He added that, in fact, some private companies are making new investments; for example, Cafe Soluble is investing over $1 million to remodel its plants.

Another refreshing element in the industrial panorama is the creation of a consultative committee in which all private sector leaders participated. I can say, Carrion emphasized, that we have no major problems with the private sector.

Government Director on Foreign Investment

PA1908183789 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 15 Aug 89 pp 1, 5

[Text] Dr Jesus Castillo Matus, the Foreign Cooperation Ministry's general foreign trade director, stated to BARRICADA that businessmen from the United States, Switzerland, Italy, Mexico, the USSR, the FRG, and Bulgaria are interested in investing in Nicaragua.

The Foreign Cooperation Ministry is responsible for implementing the foreign investment law that was approved by the National Assembly on 4 November 1987, went into effect on 9 February 1988, and started to operate on 1 June 1988.

The Foreign Trade Directorate started a propaganda campaign on the law this week as the initial step in an aggressive program to attract foreign capital to Nicaragua.

At the request of this directorate, the most important newspapers in the country have started to publish the law and its procedures. The foreign trade office is also sending Spanish and English versions of these documents to foreign embassies accredited in Nicaragua, Nicaraguan diplomatic posts in foreign countries, banks, and chamber of commerce associations all over the world.

The law is very flexible and attractive to foreign investors, as it guarantees them utilities, repatriation of capital, and access to foreign and domestic credit.

Several U.S. investors have expressed an interest in investing in Nicaragua and one of them has already started negotiations to use the undamaged lumber that was brought down by Hurricane Joan.

The U.S. State Department could try to discourage these capitalists by arguing that an embargo is still in effect.

However, as is known, branches of U.S. corporations such as ESSO and Coca-Cola are still operating in Nicaragua.

It is curious to note that ESSO, which owns the only refinery, processes Soviet crude to produce the fuel that the country needs.

Obviously, part of that fuel has been used for our military defense against the counterrevolutionary Army created and financed by the U.S. Government.

Coca-Cola of Nicaragua is obliged to pay for the right to use the trademark, symbol, and formula.

These two cases are the basis of arguments used by U.S. capitalists who are interested in investing in Nicaragua. About 30 of them met recently with Foreign Cooperation Minister Henry Ruiz.

Swiss businessmen are interested in processing cashews while other foreign businessmen are interested in mining, fishing, and certain agro-industrial projects.

36 Businesses Are Operating

The Foreign Cooperation Ministry's Foreign Investments General Directorate is a new office that lacks the necessary structure to directly assist interested parties. As a result, it is turning investors over to specialists who head offices that deal with activities related to their areas of interest.

A 1988 Central Bank report quotes 72 foreign capital companies in Nicaragua, but Dr Castillo brought the figure up to date; he claims that only 36 are operating.

Only 10 of the 36, including NESTLE, CERISA [expansion unknown], Nabisco Cristal, POLYCASA [Central American Polymers, Inc.], and TANIC [Nicaraguan Tobacco, Inc], have reported to the Foreign Investments General Directorate.

These 10 companies have reaffirmed their interest in staying in Nicaragua and some of them might expand operations.

Dr Castillo maintains that many foreign businessmen believe that Nicaragua is the best place to invest in Central America, because it has a stable government and political interest in attracting investments.

Tobacco

Although the law does not ban investment in the services area, the Nicaraguan Government's main interest is on production, especially in agro-industries.

In fact, negotiations with GDR investors for heavy investment in the tobacco industry are quite advanced.

The government is not interested in establishing a free zone in which foreign businessmen can take advantage of a cheap labor force; it wants foreign investment to complement internal efforts to improve the country's economy.

We do not want to leave natural resources unprotected either, Castillo said. He recalled that the citizens have the right to question specific projects when they believe they are harmful to the country.

Risk Capital

In this regard, he recalled the uproar caused by the announcement that a concession would be granted to Costa Rican timber dealers to exploit forest resources in the Rio San Juan area.

The so-called risk capital—investment—has shifted from Latin America to Southeast Asia. As a result, investments on the subcontinent have dropped drastically over the past few years, Dr Castillo said.

However, the Law on Foreign Investments in Nicaragua seems to be attractive enough to interest some businessmen. It was drafted under the advice of the UN Multinationals Center, Mexico's Commerce and Industrial Development Secretariat, and a Cuban organization.

Optimism

One positive characteristic of the law is that it is so broad that case-by-case negotiations are possible. Some critics have claimed that this is a weakness and that this leaves potential local investors unprotected. Castillo disagrees with this criteria.

Dr Castillo voiced his optimism about the delicate negotiations that the Foreign Cooperation Ministry is holding with interested parties, including U.S. investors.

Ministry Reports Contra Attacks 14, 15 Aug

PA1908044789 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1222 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] The latest information bulletin from the Public Relations Office of the Defense Ministry, issued yesterday, reports that there were contra attacks on an EPS [Sandinist People's Army] unit and on a civilian truck.

On 14 August, an EPS patrol was attacked by the contras in Cano El Aparejo, southeast of El Almendro, Rio San Juan Department.

On 15 August, a KAMAZ-3 truck owned by Mr Martin Prado was intercepted northwest of Yulu, Atlantico Norte Department. A total of 1 million cordobas and some personal items were stolen from the passengers.

Two Killed in Contra Ambush of EPS Vehicle

PA2108010389 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1800 GMT 20 Aug 89

[Text] A contra group ambushed a Sandinist People's Army [EPS] vehicle in central Nicaragua, killed an Army recruit and a civilian and wounded 10 other people traveling in the vehicle, the Defense Ministry reported today. The ambush took place on Saturday in Acoyapa, Chontales Department, when the military vehicle was unexpectedly attacked by the rebels, the source said. Five civilians and five Army recruits were wounded in this contra ambush, the Defense Ministry reported.

This attack occurred 4 days after President Daniel Ortega reported that the United States and the "contra" plan to infiltrate about 3,000 men into Nicaraguan territory to reactivate the war in this Central American nation. The Nicaraguan president warned that if this happens, his government will be forced to suspend the unilateral truce with the anti-Sandinist guerrillas. The truce ends on 31 August.

Two Contras Reportedly Killed in Clash

PA2108034189 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0213 GMT 21 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Managua, 20 August (DPA)—According to an official Defense Ministry report, Sandinist Army troops killed a contra leader who used the alias "Long Hair" [El Mechudo] during a clash in the country's central area.

The communique was read over the government's La Voz de Nicaragua radio station; it added that another anti-Sandinist was killed, but was not identified by the Nicaraguan troops. It also indicated that the clash had occurred in the vicinity of the Los Gatos community, 20 km to the southeast of the centrally located Acoyapa city.

The official report also noted that Sandinist Army soldiers rescued a young girl, Senelia Gonzalez Acosta, 18, from the contras yesterday. The anti-Sandinist had kidnapped her 2 months ago. [passage omitted]

Defense Ministry Reports 20 Aug Contra Clashes

PA2208165889 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1245 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] The Public and Foreign Relations Directorate of the Defense Ministry reported yesterday that on 20 August contra groups attacked La Toboba, to the southeast of Bocana de Paiwas, Chontales Department, where two mercenaries lost their lives. A soldier was wounded by the contras in this attack. In addition to the two contras killed, the contras also lost two AK rifles and two knapsacks.

On the same day, mercenaries also attacked the Palmira area, north of Tortuguero, where they killed a soldier named Jose Zaballos. The contra leader known as Aragon lost his life in the attack. The EPS [Sandinist People's Army] recovered some military supplies from the contras and rescued one person who had been kidnapped.

Contras also raided the El Toro area, southeast of San Jose de Bocay, on 20 August. EPS troops killed one mercenary, and one EPS soldier was injured.

Panama

Further on Dialogue, Suggested Noriega Retirement

Opposition Proposes Retirement

PA2208204689 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1950 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Report by Andreu Claret]

[Text] Panama City, 22 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—The Panamanian opposition has a plan for General Manuel Antonio Noriega's negotiated retirement from military command in 60 days, the giving up of the opposition's claim regarding victory in the recent elections, and the acceptance of a provisional government agreed upon by consensus with the regime.

The opposition plan, which had been kept secret until now, was revealed to Romulo Escobar Bethancourt, the government's representative to the negotiations that concluded yesterday, and the OAS mediators, a leading opposition figure told ACAN-EFE.

The source, who asked that his name be withheld, explained that the plan is based on the creation of a provisional government based on Article 184 of the Panamanian Constitution, which allows the appointment of a new minister in charge of the Presidency before 1 September.

According to the opposition plan, current President Manuel Solis Palma will have to appoint a new cabinet—agreed upon with the opposition and the regime before 31 August—and the new president would be chosen from among its members. The name of the president would also be chosen by consensus among the parties.

According to the same article of the Constitution, the elections must be held before 8 January 1990.

A leading opposition member confirmed the proposal and added that it is contingent upon a "very firm pledge from Noriega that he will retire from the Panama Defense Forces within 60 days."

If the plan is approved, the opposition is willing to "send a delegation to Washington to ask that the economic sanctions against Panama be lifted," the opposition leader said.

The regime's spokesmen have insisted that the new elections must be held after the United States lifts its sanctions.

At the conclusion of the negotiations sponsored by the OAS, Escobar Bethancourt stated: "Everything concerning Noriega is a matter that concerns only Panamanians and we will never accept the U.S. instructions," referring to the U.S. Government's demand that the general leave his post.

Nevertheless, the OAS mediation commission president, Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez, admitted that "the Noriega issue was part of the agenda and it has been discussed," adding that "there are no more taboo topics now."

A diplomatic source told ACAN-EFE that Noriega's future was discussed "in depth" during a bilateral and private meeting that Escobar held on 19 August with Guillermo Ford, an opposition figure the regime considers most inclined toward a negotiated solution to the crisis.

At the end of the dialogue meeting on Saturday, Escobar announced that "consultations" would be held at the highest level, probably with Gen Noriega.

Most observers interpret the interruption of the negotiations on 20 August as a result of the failure that resulted from this meeting with the general, who today referred to Escobar's initiative, saying that he "offered more than he was authorized to offer."

Noriega recently reiterated that he will only announce his retirement to the military, as a result of a "replacement of generations," and officers consulted on the issue said that the commander in chief's retirement cannot be included in a political negotiation with civilians.

The government also proposed the creation of a provisional "junta" presided over by an independent person and including two other persons, who would represent the regime and the opposition.

The opposition has rejected the creation of a "junta" until now because "it would represent a violation of the Constitution," Guillermo Cochez, vice president of the Christian Democratic Party, told ACAN-EFE.

According to the government proposal, announced yesterday by Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter to the Diplomatic Corps, the "junta" would call for elections within 1 year.

Nevertheless, when some ambassadors asked Ritter if the opposition proposal included a date for Noriega's retirement, the minister only announced a pledge "to revise relations between civilians and the military."

Noriega said today that the government's opponents had made a "historical error" when they rejected the proposal, adding that they were "useful fools who were programmed to reject everything."

Removal Discussed 'In Depth'

PA2208143289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1313 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Report by Antonio Martinez]

[Excerpts] Panama City, 22 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—The OAS mission which mediated in the Panamanian crisis could not attain an agreement between the regime and the opposition because it could not get a pledge and a date for General Manuel Antonio Noriega's retirement from the Panama Defense Forces, it was reported by an assistant to the negotiations.

This participant in the negotiations, who requested that his name be withheld, said that Noriega's retirement was discussed "in depth," but the opposition could not reach its goal of receiving a definite pledge from the general. [passage omitted]

According to sources close to the dialogue, Noriega does not want to retire before the creation of a provisional government, but would be willing to consider the possibility afterwards.

In any case, the sources added, the general apparently does not want his name and a retirement date to be included in the dialogue's final document, while the opposition, on the other hand, rejects the agreement if this is not clearly stated. [passage omitted]

Noriega Scores Opposition Stand

PA2208200089 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1855 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] Rio Hato, Panama, 22 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—Panama Defense Forces Commander General Manuel Antonio Noriega said today that the Panamanian opposition made a "historic error" by not accepting its participation in a regime-proposed coalition government.

Noriega told newsmen at the Rio Hato Military Base 120 km from Panama City: "They made the historic 'blunder' of not accepting half of the government." The general said that "it is a historic mistake because they were offered half of the government and, with the economic power the opposition has and the support it receives from the United States, the opposition could have seized all the government."

Noriega noted: "They could be given no more than what they were offered because they were offered everything." The general described the opposition members as "useful fools who went to the meetings programmed to say no to everything."

Gen Noriega made this statement on the occasion of the 19th anniversary of the reversion of the Rio Hato Military Base from the United States to Panama.

When asked about the future of the bases which the United States still operates in the country, bases that the United States must abandon at the end of 1999 according to U.S.-Panamanian treaties, Noriega said: "If they want the bases, let them ask for them, but do not let them act like a man who pretends he wants to enamor a woman and instead rapes her."

Noriega said: "The struggle will continue until the last Yankee soldier leaves the country." He noted: "This is not a struggle of one single man. This is the result of a generational process."

He criticized the government's representative at the OAS-sponsored talks, Romulo Escobar Bethancourt, because "he offered more than what he was authorized to offer" to the opposition.

Asked about recent statements given by U.S. President George Bush, who insinuated that he might recognize opposition leader Guillermo Endara as the future president of Panama, Noriega answered: Praise the Lord, let them take him with everything he has."

He added in the same humorous tone: "I would agree to (the creation of) a military junta" after 1 September. He immediately added: "I am joking, but you can use it as you wish."

Referring to the OAS meeting that will be held tomorrow in Washington to discuss the Panamanian crisis and the transfer of power that must take place before 1 September, Noriega said: "This is no concern of theirs," adding that "we can live with this kind of action," referring to a possible condemnation from the OAS.

Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Presidency, who accompanied the general, stated: "Panama's problem is a juridical, not a political, problem. Therefore, it is not bound to that date, meaning 1 September."

"The dialogue (with the opposition) has yet to give results, but the tree has been sown and it can bear fruit at any moment," said Solis, who added that "the search for an agreement remains open after 1 September."

Referring to the possibility that he might continue as president after that date, he stated: "The possibility has not been ruled out, but that is not what we want."

Solis on Talks, Presidency

PA2308003089 Panama City Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 2209 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] Manuel Solis Palma, Panamanian minister in charge of the Presidency, has said that the Panamanian problem is not a legal, but a political problem, and therefore, is not tied to the 1 September date.

Solis said that the dialogue with the Panamanian opposition has not had any results thus far, but that the tree is planted and can bear fruits at any time. Solis said the search is on for an agreement that will be effective 1 September.

As for the possibility of him continuing as the Panamanian president after 1 September, Solis said the possibility has not been ruled out, although that is not what is being sought.

Meanwhile, the lack of agreement with which the third OAS attempt to mediate in the Panamanian crisis concluded, has increased Washington's concern about the future and viability of the OAS.

The United States, which for years has been hesitating about paying the $40 million it owes to the OAS, implicitly made the OAS viability contingent upon its ability to solve conflicts such as the Panamanian one.

The OAS foreign ministers will meet in Washington for the 4th time tomorrow, 23 August, to learn the results of the mediating efforts made by the special OAS mission in Panama.

PRD Legislator on Discussions

PA2308005489 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2326 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] Legislator Rigoberto Paredes has said that the national dialogue served to show the world COLINA's [National Liberation Coalition] political willingness to form a government of national unity. He added that his party, the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party], called its legislators to an urgent meeting this afternoon to discuss the possibility of holding special legislative sessions.

[Begin Paredes recording] I always thought that the only value the dialogue could have would be if it contributed in achieving national unity to face U.S. imperialism, and at the same time help the grass roots obtain better social and economic living conditions, in general terms. However, since the ADOC [Civic Democratic Alliance] is at the service of the U.S. Government, there exists a contradiction that has prevented an agreement.

On the other hand, I think that the dialogue has had a positive result, in that we have shown the world, and particularly the OAS, that it was possible to sit down and talk. From the viewpoints of the government, COLINA, and the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], I think the dialogue was advantageous because in its report the OAS must admit that the government, COLINA, and the FDP were always willing and ready to find solutions through dialogue. [end recording]

Endara Denies Junta Agreement

PA2308001489 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2332 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] This afternoon, opposition leader Guillermo Endara Galimany denied that the opposition has a plan for the departure of General Manuel Antonio Noriega in 60 days. He commented on the remark made by Gen Noriega today to the effect that the opposition was making a historic error by refusing to participate in a coalition government.

[Begin recording] [Endara] I feel that it is a serious error for him to analyze everything from the viewpoint of power. It is true that if we were to agree, we could have obtained some power, but we are not interested in power for its own sake. I only aspire to the Presidency so that the people can have power. We are going to the Presidency to serve the people, not to exercise power. We are not seeking power per se. We only want to serve the people. Moreover, we are not seeking a portion of power but all the power for the people.

[Reporter] An ACAN-EFE report states that the opposition has agreed to renounce its victory on 7 May and to participate in the provisional government junta in exchange for Gen Noriega's withdrawal within 60 days.

[Endara] We have never agreed to participate in a dirty junta [junta de embarre] or a government junta. We have never agreed to renounce our victory on 7 May, and never spoke of setting a deadline for Gen Noriega. The entire report is unfounded and has no basis in fact. [end recording]

Ford Informs Diplomats

PA2308005189 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2317 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Report on statements by Guillermo Ford, former opposition vice presidential candidate, to members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Panama, on 22 August—place not given]

[Text] Members of the diplomatic corps met this morning with Guillermo Ford, former vice presidential candidate of the ADOC [Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance], to hear his comments on the tripartite talks. Let us listen.

[Begin Ford recording] I have said before that it is a tradition of the ADOC presidential candidates to keep the diplomatic corps in Panama informed. We have done so on innumerable occasions publicly—not in confidence or in private, and certainly not in secret. As a representative of the ADOC slate, I visited the nuncio this morning to inform him, first about Dr Ricardo Arias Calderon and my visit to Venezuela, Peru, and Colombia, and also to give him details about the course of the national dialogue that officially ended yesterday. [end recording]

Ford also commented on what will occur on 1 September.

[Begin Ford recording] We want a peaceful transition of power. We will continue to struggle to represent the Panamanian people with dignity and decorum so as to allow the people's will as expressed on 7 May to be respected, because there was clearly a far-reaching difference between the parties involved. There was a great, basic difference between the two proposals. We insisted that a plebiscite be held so that the people could choose their destiny in a sovereign manner. We will continue to represent the people, with integrity and honesty, as we have promised and as we have done so far. The people's sovereign will must be respected, so that it will be possible to achieve democratization and peaceful coexistence among Panamanians. [end recording]

Noriega Hails President Garcia's Support

PA2308014089 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2357 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Letter sent by General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces, to Peruvian President Alan Garcia—date not given]

[Text] I have read your article that was published in THE NEW YORK TIMES with real interest. I agree with you completely: If the United States turns over the canal to the Panamanian people in 1990, the cause of the most dangerous conflict on the continent would disappear. Your initiative has been welcomed by Panamanian patriots. With no other legal authority than that bestowed upon me by my status as a patriot, I designate you attorney of the Panamanian cause.

With all my esteem,

[Signed] Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega, Commander in Chief of the Defense
Forces of the Republic of Panama

Editorial Scores ADOC, U.S. 'Invasion' Plan

PA2208182389 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 21 Aug 89 p 4

[Editorial: "The Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance Errand Boys Are Euphoric—U.S. Southern Command Prepares for Invasion"]

[Text] The ADOC [Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance] members have been compelled to show their cards, which they had kept up their sleeves until now while using all sorts of delaying tactics in conjunction with very suspicious trips to consult with their English-speaking "cadres."

The three peddlers of national dignity have delayed the dialogue at all costs and beyond what is permissible—a trick used only by cheating gamblers—with the intention of waiting for the moment when, according to their calculations, the other political parties that participate in the consultation will feel pressured, even anguished, because the calendar is announcing the imminent arrival of 1 September.

According to the computerized instructions from their northern mentors and other international contacts, their refusal to adopt a firm position to help resolve the national situation will provoke a state of general psychosis. This would create, according to their calculations, the right atmosphere for the people to unleash in the nation an unsustainable climate of violence, thus providing a reason—not to mention a justification—for the continent and the world to hear Marc Cisneros' [U.S. Army South Commander] voice in the tragic moment when he summons his troops against Panama, its Defense Forces, its government, and—above all—its people.

Messrs Guillermo Endara, Ricardo Arias Calderon, and Guillermo Ford have already spread the rumor that on 1 September they will take over the government offices. They know that this will not work, so they now want to use their ultimate resource: The U.S. Southern Command, whose members have been sufficiently motivated by their commanders to enter Panama for target practice.

This situation must be overcome and the Panamanian people cannot continue to be as trusting and happy as they are always described to be. The people will take measures and, obviously, these will entail much sacrifice.

However, the people of ADOC and their supporters should know something in advance: This sacrifice will not be unilateral. Everyone will have to pay. When we say all, we make no exceptions—especially when referring to the anti-Panamanian groups who have presented a new alternative: "A Panamanian-to-Panamanian dialogue or a confrontation with armed anti-Panamanians."

Therefore, they should not moan when the people demand that they pay the price for what they are doing with interest; or when history makes them fully responsible for what they have sponsored.

In regard to the U.S. Southern Command troops, we have already shown that their commander cares nothing about decency, respect for life, and human rights. So, the only fear that "Cisne-ros" [cisne is Spanish for swan] might have in this project is that he could have the unfortunate task of singing the well-known swan song of this project.

Columnist Lashes Out at Opposition Communique
PA2208204989 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 21 Aug 89 p 4

["Political Colisseum" column by Baltazar Renan Aizpurua: "The Sell-Outs in Their Own Puddle"]

[Text] The good thing about each public communique issued by the three delinquents who were presidential and vice presidential candidates for the Colonialist Democratic Opposition Alliance [real name of party alliance is Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance, ADOC] is that in them they remove their masks a little more each time and show to the country what they have always been: Sell-Outs.

Yesterday, on page A-13 of the oldest national newspaper, we read ADOC's position regarding the military exercises that are being conducted by the U.S. Armed Forces and the Panama Defense Forces. We read it and reread it. We were looking for a condemnation of U.S. aggression, but we found none. The communique is dated 15 August; that is, they waited 5 days before issuing their monstrosity, the sole purpose of which is to repeat that they won the annulled 7 May elections.

The communique in question states that ADOC "believes that it must speak up, with patriotism and without strident demagoguery, about the situation brought about by frequent military exercises conducted by the U.S. Armed Forces stationed in our country and by the Panama Defense Forces [FDP]." They directed their poisoned darts at Panamanian military men and never criticized, censured, condemned, or repudiated the actions of the invading Yankee troops. To them, there is no difference between U.S. troops—which, in violation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties, are humiliating, attacking, and offending the Panamanian people, and even execrating our flag—and the FDP and Dignity Battalions that are defending our national integrity by upholding the liberation struggle and by conducting nonoffensive military maneuvers to exercise our sovereignty.

ADOC adds that "a militarily weak country such as ours must base its foreign policy on ethical and democratic principles to promote national unity and international respect." And I ask: What ethical principles can these turncoats have when they have been constantly interrupting the national dialogue that aims to find agreement formulas with childish excuses, such as having to travel abroad to make consultations with foreign leaders? And what principles can they have when they defend tax evaders [reference to Circuito RPC Television and Radio], as if to show the world the reason why they want to achieve power? Why are these traitors talking about national unity when they harbor hopes that the OAS or the invading Yankee Army will help them reach power? What international respect can we expect when "Cuchungo" Endara experienced mental excitement because President Bush called him to express doubts that he (Endara) has political support among Panamanians, but assured him that he does have support in the United States? A few days later, we saw what kind of support "Cuchungo" Endara has when about 3,000 people heard him splitting his sides with laughter while saying how much he likes being called "Cuchungo," "Sweet Bread," and "Dumbo" at the Garden of Peace Cemetery before Dr Arnulfo Arias' tomb.

"Messrs" [previous word in English] Endara, Arias Calderon, and Ford dislike being dubbed traitors, claiming that this is part of a sinister government campaign. This columnist has never accepted guidelines or orders from his superiors when he wishes to write what is on his mind. I call them traitors because I am sure that they would be part of the docile government that the United States wants to impose on our country. The evidence has convinced me that ADOC leaders do not think or feel as Panamanians do; they serve the interests of the Yankee empire.

Here is an example. The eloquent picture below provides a full shot of former ADOC second vice presidential candidate Guillermo Ford. In his usual role as a Washington servant, he is shown cutting the ribbon to inaugurate a pavillion of his real fatherland, the United States of America, at a fair. That is what this individual really is. He was accidentally born in Panama, but he actually feels, thinks, and acts like a gringo. In his own world, surrounded by U.S. flags and bodyguards, "Billy" Ford, a big-time CIA agent, feels transformed into a leader by the grace of the aggression against our people.

Rally Supports 'Oust the Intruder' Operation

PA2208235589 Panama City Television Service in Spanish 1530 GMT 20 Aug 89

[From the weekly Panama Defense Forces program "Everything for the Fatherland"]

[Text] As part of the "Oust the Intruder" national defense operation, soldiers from the 3d Military Zone along with members of the Omar Torrijos Dignity Battalion carried out tactical incursions on strategic targets in Santiago, Veraguas Province. The exercises were carried out simultaneously in Sona, Montijo, and other communities in Veraguas. Major Guy De Puy, chief of the 3d Military Zone, coordinated and supervised the exercises. The Santiago operation also included the evacuation of public offices and culminated with a patriotic rally at the 3d Military Zone Garrison.

Meanwhile, officials from government organizations as well as friends of the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] held a rally to voice support for the "Oust the Intruder" national defense operation, the national government, and the FDP in the Porras Park, Las Tablas District [Los Santos Province]. The activities included burning a coffin, a U.S. flag, and an effigy of American General Marc Cisneros.

Following the rally, the people moved on to the 7th Military Zone Garrison where they were the guests of Major Luis Martinez, chief of the 7th Military Zone. Maj Martinez thanked the Las Tablas people for their nationalist feelings, and said he would convey their message to FDP Commander in Chief General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Similar activities were held in Los Santos Villa where several community leaders delivered speeches during a rally.

Argentina

Deputies Condemn U.S. Aggression in Panama

PA2308043189 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish
21 Aug 89 pp 1, 14

[Text] Argentine Deputies Miguel Monserrat, Jose Carlos Ramos, Dario Alessandro Delflor Brizuela, Guillermo A. Ball Lima, Jose Pampuro, Ines Botella, Fernando E. Paz, Franco Caviglia, Guillermo Estevez Boero, Matilde Fernandez de Quarracino, Alberto Aramouni, Simon Lazara, Jose Canata, Maria Gomez Mirana, and others, introduced a resolution at the Argentine Chamber of Deputies noting their rejection of constant U.S. aggressions against Panama.

In their resolution, they note their concern over the danger these actions pose for the continent's peace and security. They state in another article of their resolution that they will address the U.S. Congress to denounce the systematic disrespect and repeated violations of the principles of nonintervention in the foreign affairs of other countries, territorial integrity, and the people's right to self-determination.

To conclude, they ask that strict compliance with the Torrijos-Carter treaties be guaranteed, and urge the Argentine Executive to internationally promote the sending of UN observers to Panama in the face of the irresponsible threat by U.S. President George Bush, who said he did not rule out the possibility of capturing General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces.

Bolivia

USSR To Purchase Agricultural Products

PY2208001189 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish
17 Aug 89 p 7

[Excerpt] Soviet Ambassador to Bolivia Takhir Durdyyev has informed Industry, Commerce and Tourism Minister Guido Cespedes Argandona that in addition to its technical-financial cooperation program with Bolivia, the Soviet Union wants to buy Bolivian agricultural products. Initially, the USSR will buy 50,000 tons of sugar.

Durdyyev made this announcement during a lengthy meeting held with Cespedes Argandona on 16 August. This meeting, which was labeled important for Soviet-Bolivian trade relations, was also attended by Soviet Commercial Attache Viktor F. Andulov. [passage omitted]

Senate To Investigate Passports for Chinese Case

PY2208214389 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish
21 Aug 89 p 1

[Excerpts] Senator Juan Luzio Granchant, president of the Senate committee of constitution, government, justice, and community systems, has announced that the Senate will investigate charges of irregular procedures within the Foreign Ministry. Senator Luzio said that the irregular procedures must not go unpunished, since the Bolivian image and prestige are at stake before the international community. [passage omitted]

Luzio said that the Senate will begin investigations into the case of passports granted on irregular terms to Chinese citizens. He said that those responsible for this crime must be identified and punished according to the law.

Senator Luzio said that exemplary punishment must be meted out in this case to prevent future irregular procedures in the ministry, motivated by personal financial ambitions, since such cases place Bolivian credibility and seriousness at stake. [passage omitted]

Approximately 800 Students Studying in USSR

PY2208232089 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish
20 Aug 89 Second Section p 16

[Article by Patricia Sanjines Alvarez]

[Excerpt] Planning and Coordination Ministry officials have reported that some 800 Bolivian students are currently studying in Soviet universities under a scholarship agreement signed by the two governments.

The report says that 70 students are selected every year to travel to the Soviet Union. In 1989, 92 university students won scholarships to pursue a professional career. This program has benefited both male and female students.

The Soviet Union offers a wide variety of specialties encompassing the industrial, technical, and social areas, as well as mathematics. Among the oustanding specialties that would be applicable to our national needs are those related to agriculture, namely horticulture and viticulture, mechanized agriculture, rural electrification and so forth; those related to mining such as enrichment of minerals, mining topography, and so forth; those related to the construction of machinery and equipment such as agricultural machinery, transportation machinery and equipment, lift trucks, internal combustion engines, etc.

Our national reality shows that our country's economic recovery and progress is entirely dependent upon our agricultural and technical development. According to statistical reports, the favorite career of Bolivian students in the USSR is computer science, which is regarded as a career for the future. They also prefer social

sciences. The time has come, however, for the Bolivian students to become aware of our reality: Bolivia needs agricultural, technical, and industrial experts who could make the Bolivian dream of achieving progress come true. [passage omitted]

Fuel Price Increase Averages 20 Percent

PY2208232389 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 18 Aug 89 p 1

[Excerpt] According to Energy and Hydrocarbons Minister Angel Zanier, the government has decreed a fuel price increase to balance the administration's budget.

According to the official report, henceforth one liter of regular gasoline will cost 89 centavos, the 10- kg bottle of liquified gas (for domestic use) 7.50 bolivianos, and one liter of kerosene 60 centavos. [passage omitted]

According to Zanier, the fuel price increases average 20 percent.

Yesterday, Energy and Hydrocarbon Ministry authorities told PRESENCIA that the fuel price increase was necessary because Bolivian Government Oil Deposits [YPFB] was not collecting enough "fresh" funds for investment projects.

Hydrocarbons Director Ricardo Michel said that with present prices YPFB could not cover its costs. [passage omitted]

Official Notes Increased Drug Activity

PY2308024089 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2140 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] La Paz, 22 Aug (EFE)—According to reports handled by Gonzalo Torrico, recently appointed social defense under secretary, various international organizations, probably linked to "the Medellin Cartel," have established drug manufacturing and trafficking networks in Bolivia.

These networks are still in the first stages and comprise small producers, suppliers, middlemen, money launderers, distributors, transporters, and security elements, Torrico said.

Torrico said the situation is disturbing because these groups can provoke social disturbances, and they can amass economic power capable of seriously threatening the state.

Torrico added: "We have established that the Bolivian state has not fulfilled, or has not been able to fulfill, its commitment to the social defense of the country to the point where mention of the fight against drug trafficking only evokes a confusing idea of corruption and abuse among the population."

The situation, added Torrico, is very serious because the public hears with indignation that judges, policemen, and politicians who have struggled hard against drug trafficking are being murdered.

Torrico said that Bolivia is facing a constant increase in the production of cocaine in its purest form (hydrochloride) and increased activity of drug trafficking gangs across the borders with Brazil, Argentina, and Paraguay.

The Bolivian under secretary concluded by saying that a concerted international action against drug trafficking could be a way to confront this problem that threatens the stability of various countries.

Brazil

Official To Protest U.S. Computer Restrictions

PY2308021089 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] The Brazilian Government has decided to formally protest the U.S. decision not to sell supercomputers to Brazil. The University of Sao Paulo and EMBRAER [Brazilian Aeronautics Company] are trying to import computers which are considered of strategic value by the United States.

Itamaraty Secretary General Paulo Tarso Flecha de Lima arrived in Washington today, and in 2 days he will meet with Lawrence Eagleburger, U.S. deputy secretary of state, to formally present the protest.

Coverage of Sarney, Menem, Sanguinetti Meeting

Sarney Arrives in Uruguaiana

PY2208144489 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1400 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] President Jose Sarney arrived in Rio Grande do Sul State a few minutes ago. He landed at Uruguaiana Airport at 1020, experiencing a sudden change in temperature. Local temperature is now 12 centigrade.

The president will now go to the international bridge linking Uruguaiana and Paso de los Libres, where he will meet Argentine President Carlos Menem.

In addition to a visit to the local town hall, where Governor Pedro Simon yesterday installed his state government, the two presidents will also visit the commercial club in the downtown area.

The two presidents will return to the Uruguaiana airport at 1240 to receive Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti. This meeting of three presidents is clear evidence of Latin American integration.

The three presidents will hold a 20-minute formal meeting at the commercial club, where they will speak briefly. After lunch President Sanguinetti will return to Montevideo, while Presidents Sarney and Menem will leave for Brasilia at 1600.

Menem Begins 3-Day Visit

PY2208170989 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Excerpts] President Carlos Menem today started his 3-day visit to Brazil. He left Jorge Newbery Airport at 0930 and arrived at Paso de Los Libres at 1100. There he met Brazilian President Jose Sarney on the bridge that connects Paso de Los Libres to the Brazilian town of Uruguaiana. [passage omitted]

During his visit to Brazil, which will end on 24 August, Menem will visit Brasilia and Sao Paulo and hold several working meetings with President Sarney.

In Uruguaiana, the two presidents will sign agreements creating two border committees and then go to the Uruguaiana Airport to welcome Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti. [passage omitted]

The three presidents will have lunch at the Uruguaiana Commercial Club and leave for Brasilia at 1615. They will arrive there at about 1800. [passage omitted]

President Menem will hold meetings tomorrow with Brazil's three main presidential candidates for the 15 November elections: Leonel Brizola, of the Democratic Labor Party; Fernando Collor de Mello, of the National Reconstruction Party; and Ignacio de Silva Lula, of the Workers party.

Presidents Sign Agreements

PY2208213589 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 2000 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] The first steps toward effective Latin American integration were taken today in the town of Uruguaiana when the presidents of Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay signed several documents enhancing cooperation between their countries.

At noon, Presidents Sarney and Carlos Menem signed three documents: One provides for the creation of border committees to coordinate customs policies between Uruguaiana and Paso de los Libres, and Foz do Iguazu and Puerto Iguazu, in Brazil and Argentina respectively.

These committees will try to facilitate the transit of people, goods, and services between the two countries. They will also promote the development of the region.

The second document signed was the Uruguaiana Declaration, by which the two presidents recognize that the border should not merely be used as a geographical definition, but also as a bridge for social, cultural, and economic integration.

The presidents also created a commission to study Brazil's purchase of Argentine gas. The commission will have 90 days to establish basic guidelines for the deal, which will include the construction of a gas pipeline between Entre Rios Province and Porto Alegre.

Foreign Ministers Abreu Sodre of Brazil and Domingo Cavallo of Argentina signed an agreement on behalf of their respective governments for the construction of another bridge over the Uruguay River, at a site near the towns of Sao Borja and Santo Tome.

Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti arrived in Uruguaiana early in the afternoon. At 1530, the three presidents signed a tripartite agreement, aimed at increasing cooperation and integration between the respective nations.

The three documents all dealt with ground transport, tourism, and communications, besides [words indistinct]. President Julio Maria Sanguinetti returned to Montevideo shortly after 1600.

Shortly afterwards, Presidents Sarney, Carlos Menem, and Rio Grande do Sul Governor Pedro Simon boarded the presidential plane and departed for Brasilia, where they are scheduled to arrive at the Brasilia Air Force Base at 1930.

Drug Trafficking Condemned

PY2308010589 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Brazilian President Jose Sarney and Argentine President Carlos Menem met today on the international bridge that connects the cities of Uruguaiana and Paso de los Libres. [passage omitted]

After a document-signing ceremony, Presidents Menem and Sarney welcomed Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti at the Uruguaiana airport . [passage omitted]

After a meeting held at 1600, the three presidents released a press communique condemning drug trafficking and terrorism, which were responsible for the murder of Colombian presidential candidate Luis Galan this past weekend. The three presidents also confirmed their support for the OAS mission in Colombia.

President Sarney has sent Colombian President Virgilio Barco a message expressing his regret for the attack in which Liberal Party presidential candidate Luis Carlos Galan Sarmiento was murdered.

Foreign Minister Abreu Sodre also sent a message to his Colombian counterpart, Julio Londono, expressing his regret for the attack.

Argentine President Arrives in Brasilia for Talks

PY2308020489 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] Argentine President Carlos Menem is in Brasilia and will attend a dinner hosted by President Jose Sarney at Itamaraty Palace tonight. Early this morning Menem met with the Brazilian president at the border.

The two presidents met on a Rio Grande do Sul bridge which links the cities of Uruguaiana and Paso de los Libres. Soon afterward in Uruguaiana, they signed cooperation agreements by which Brazil will purchase Argentine gas and border committees will be created to facilitate trade between the two countries.

Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti later joined the Brazilian and Argentine presidents.

During a news conference, President Menem said that the Argentine foreign debt will initially be negotiated individually, after which it will be negotiated collectively.

President Sarney said that the foreign debt negotiations should not be troublesome.

[Begin Sarney recording] We should negotiate without any confrontations. However, the negotiations must firmly defend the interests of our countries. [end recording]

President Carlos Menem will remain in Brazil for 3 days. This is his first trip abroad. [sentence as heard]

Treasury Establishes Foreign Debt Bonds

PY2308015689 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] The Finance Ministry has issued two decrees reducing the redemption term of National Treasury Bonds, BTN, to a year, and establishing Foreign Debt Bonds [Bono da Divida Externa].

Decree 170 reduces the BTN redemption term from 2 years to 1 year. According to Roberto Figueiredo, National Treasury public debt adviser, companies may now buy BTN bonds with a shorter redemption term, in keeping with their needs.

[Begin Figueiredo recording] [Passage indistinct] this is another alternative offered by the National Treasury to those companies that need a shorter-term bond. [Passage indistinct] the National Treasury is therefore offering another option. A 1-year certificate is now available to those who need a shorter redemption term. [Passage indistinct] [end recording]

The second decree relates to the foreign debt agreement Brazil signed last year with international banks. According to Roberto Figueiredo, the creation of the Foreign Debt Bond will allow Brazilian creditors to swap debts for bonds redeemable in up to 25 years, earning 6-percent interest per year.

Chile

U.S. Embassy Denies Lifting Arms Embargo

PY2208143089 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] The U.S. Embassy in Santiago has stated that the Kennedy Amendment continues to be in force and that the sale of U.S. helicopters to the Chilean Army does not violate this embargo.

The U.S. Embassy made this statement after an article in a local daily reported that the 12-year-old U.S. embargo on the supply of war materiel to Chile, decreed in 1976 through the Kennedy Amendment, had in fact been lifted because the Chilean Army had purchased 15 training helicopters from Enstrom, a U.S. company.

Consultation Mechanism Established With Peru

PY2308033389 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 15 Aug 89 p C-5

[Text] The Chilean and Peruvian Foreign Ministries have agreed to establish a bilateral consultation mechanism at the level of under secretary and vice minister, respectively.

The agreement was recently concluded through an exchange of notes in Lima.

These consultations will be designed to periodically evaluate bilateral relations and regional and international topics of interest to both foreign ministries.

13 Arrested Following Tobalada Incident

PY2208220889 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0044 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] Santiago de Chile, 21 Aug (EFE)—The National Intelligence Center (CNI) (the secret political police of the military regime) today reported that 13 people were arrested and that their possible involvement in the attack on the Army Aviation Command, where an officer and a terrorist died, is being investigated.

They were arrested following raids by CNI agents on three houses registered in the name of the dead attacker, who has been identified as Roberto Fernando Nordenflyght Farias.

The detainees have been charged with belonging to the ultraleftist Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR) group, which is considered by General Augusto Pinochet's regime to be the armed branch of the outlawed Communist Party.

The CNI reported that military uniforms, ammunition, first-aid kits, telecommunication equipment, documents belonging to the terrorists, and other elements were seized during the raid.

The CNI pointed out that documents related to a stakeout on Air Force Squadron Commander Roberto Fuentes Morrison, retired, were found in one of the raided houses. Fuentes Morrison was murdered in Santiago 2 months ago.

Press sources reported that Raquel Echiguren, a 14-weeks-pregnant student, is among the 13 detainees. Relative of Echiguren today requested court protection for her.

Chilean chief executive General Augusto Pinochet today condemned the murder of the Army Lieutenant early this morning during the attack on the Army Aviation Command at the Tobalada airport, east of Santiago.

During a ceremony sponsored by the Carabineros (militarized police) to mark his 16th anniversary as Army commander in chief, Pinochet said: This terrorist attack "is the terrorists reply to their godfathers who claim to promote human rights."

Pinochet added: "These gentlemen only support Marxist-Leninists or terrorists. They turn a blind eye when the victim is a member of the Armed or Police Forces who is defending the country's freedom."

FPMR Issues Communique

PY2208012389 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] Roberto Nordenflyght Farias, the extremist who was killed last Sunday in a shoot-out at the Tobalaba Airport in Santiago, was a member of a faction that branched away from the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR]. This was announced by the FPMR in a communique released to the media.

Army Lieutenant Roberto Zegers Ruiz, who was also killed during the terrorist attack, was buried today at the Park of Memories cemetery.

The FPMR questioned the communiques released by the Army and by the National Intelligence Center and noted that the case must be thoroughly investigated.

Nordenflyght was an FPMR member until mid-1987, the communique said, when he left the FPMR over basic disagreements.

The communique, which was released by FPMR spokesman Jorge Salas, conveyed the FPMR regret for Nordenflyght's death.

Two Air Force Generals Retire From Service

PY2208191389 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Summary] During a ceremony at the Captain Avalos School, the Air Force today bade farewell to two retiring generals. The ceremony was presided over by General Fernando Matthei, the Air Force commander in chief. General Ramon Vega Hidalgo, Air Force chief of staff, praised the fruitful carreer of the two retiring Generals Jaime Gonzalez Ortega and Elias Jacob Helo.

Official Results of Plebiscite Announced

PY2308033289 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 12 Aug 89 p C-2

[Text] The Electoral Court [Tribunal Calificador de Elecciones—TRICEL] yesterday announced the official result of the 30 July plebiscite in which the citizenry approved by a majority vote 54 amendments to the 1980 Constitution.

According to the final vote tally, out of a total 7,082,084 votes, 6,069,449 (85.70 percent) people voted "approval," 581,605 (8.21 percent) people voted "rejection," 324,283 (4.58 percent) votes were invaled, and 106,747 (1.51 percent) votes were blank.

A total of 22,987 balloting tables nationwide were scrutinized by the TRICEL.

The TRICEL, chaired by Victor Rivas del Canto, began meeting 4 August at 1000 and worked nonstop until almost midnight 11 August. Twenty-five TRICEL officials participated in the vote tally.

Monckeberg Withdraws Presidential Candidacy

PY2308020889 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Dr Fernando Monckeberg today announced his decision to withdraw his presidential candidacy. The prominent professor explained the reasons for his decision in a public statement released at the Institute for Nutrition and Technological research of the University of Chile.

After describing the Electoral Service's decision to cancel his registration as ambiguous and contradictory, Monckeberg stated that the 5-percent ceiling for proponents affiliated with political parties should be applied to the minimum number of proponents required to register a candidacy, not to the total number of proponents.

Monckeberg noted that his candidacy was endorsed by 45,000 independent voters, which is far above the minimum of 37,000 signatures required to register a candidate. [passage omitted]

MIR Critical of Opposition Negotiations

PY1808155089 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 18 Aug 89

[Text] The Movement of the Revolutionary Left, MIR, one of the most radical Marxist groups in the opposition, has celebrated its 24th anniversary, stating that the MIR was virtually forced to support Patricio Aylwin.

The MIR people insisted that the opposition coalition arrived at a conclusion that, in the eyes of the MIR, is a bourgeois democratic alternative—one very well portrayed by Aylwin.

MIR leaders Jecar Neghme, Jose Miguel Moya, and Martin Hernandez have said that democracy will be restored in Chile only by mobilizing the masses and with the people playing a leading role.

The MIR leaders also expressed their doubts about the solutions proposed by the opposition's leadership. They described as improper the meetings between the Christian Democratic Party and the National Renewal Party to discuss the future role of the Armed Forces, meetings that are being held without the participation of the left.

MIR spokesman Jecar Neghme has pointed out that those meetings are following the same procedures used for the constitutional reform issue—reforms that did not satisfy the left and that the left supported only to avoid disrupting the unity established for the election of December 1989.

Terrorist Front Weapons Found Near Graneros

PY1908193789 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Aug 89

[Report by Hugo Cubillos of Radio Nacional de Chile of Rancagua]

[Text] Concerning the arms cache discovered in the (Altigua) Valley in Graneros, barely 300 meters from the Paz de Azucar hill, the Carabineros have reported that the investigations continue, and that so far there are no suspects or detainees.

The arms cache, which belongs to the proscribed FPMR [Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front] organization, includes 4 shotguns, 6 grenades, 100 grams of aluminium powder, 60 meters of safety fuse, 40 mechanical detonators, and 7 electric detonators.

The Carabineros presume that those arms would have been used soon in terrorist actions in the region. Additional information will not be supplied, so as not to hinder the investigations.

Comparison of New Pinochet Cabinet Ministers

PY2208232589

Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish on 18 August runs an article on pages A-1 and A-12 in which the names and biographical details of the new cabinet members are given. The EL MERCURIO version has been compared with the Santiago Domestic Service Spanish version published in the 18 August Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 22, revealing the following variations:

Column two, penultimate paragraph, line four make read...Brigadier General Hernan Abad Cid as Public Works Minister...(changing rank) Same column, same paragraph, penultimate line make read...Army Colonel Cristian Labbe Galilea...(changing and confirming spelling)

Colombia

Continued Reportage on Government Drug Crackdown

Londono on Offered U.S. Troops

PA2208193589 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1740 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Report by Antonio Jose Caballero]

[Text] Given the national crisis prevailing in the country, President Barco is reconsidering his trip to Europe, scheduled for next week. The Colombian president has also talked with U.S. President Bush, who announced U.S. economic and nonmilitary aid to Colombia.

Foreign Minister Julio Londono referred to the issue before leaving for Washington, where he will attend an OAS meeting to review Panama's political situation.

The U.S. President restated that his government wants to cooperate with our country in its struggle against drug trafficking.

[Begin recording] [Londono] President Barco told the U.S. President that the Colombian Government does not need and will not accept the deployment of U.S. troops but, naturally, the cooperation of the United States and the international community is indispensable in cracking down on drug operations.

[Caballero] Are you going to the OAS meeting?

[Londono] Yes, I am going today and I will attend the meeting tomorrow. We will hear the views and report on the OAS commission's mediation role. We will carefully analyze the commission members' report and evaluate it. [end recording]

U.S. Spanish Newscast Cited

PA2308011989 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Aug 89

[Text] The Spanish-language newscast UNIVISION, which is transmitted in the United States, has just reported a last minute news item: The leaders of the Medellin and Cali Cartels are reportedly in Nicaragua and Panama.

Reliable sources cited by UNIVISION claimed that Pablo Escobar, Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha, and Gilberto Rodriguez Orejuela met with Panamanian authorities and Nicaraguan Government spokesmen on 20 August in the (?Tocumen) Base in Panama to negotiate [normalizar] their asylum.

Based on this information, Pablo Escobar, Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha, and Gilberto Rodriguez are reportedly in Panajungla, on the Panamanian-Costa Rican border, and Jorge Luis Ochoa is reportedly somewhere in Nicaragua.

The UNIVISION newscast added that it consulted the Panamanian and Nicaraguan Governments, but both denied the report.

Police Arrest Galan Suspects

PA2308012689 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0008 GMT 23 Aug 89

[Text] Attention: Here is a last minute report. Gloria Congotti has just arrived at our studios from the DIJIN [Directorate of Judicial Police and Investigations] with video clips of five men suspected of killing Liberal Presidential Candidate Luis Carlos Galan Sarmiento. Their names are Armando Bernal Acosta, Norberto Murillo Chalata, Pedro Zambrano Delgado, Luis Alfredo Gonzalez Chacon, and Luis Hasbun.

The five suspects were arrested at 4-A Road, No 1978, in mezzanine 1, Bogota, where an office supposedly operated. They are currently being held at the DIJIN facilities. According to authorities, their features coincide with the composite sketch prepared by the Judicial Police based on the descriptions given by witnesses.

The individuals suspected of killing Luis Carlos Galan Sarmiento last Friday will be turned over to the Third Public Order Court, which will be in charge of investigating this crime that has shaken Colombia and the entire world.

If anyone who was present at the Soacha Square Friday night recognizes anyone of these suspects, please call DIJIN. Of course, the names of those who call will be kept secret.

Extradition Decree Changes Noted

PA2308022089 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0020 GMT 23 Aug 89

[Report by Diana Giraldo]

[Text] There are many differences between the extradition decree issued by President Virgilio Barco on 18 August, and the one that was valid in Colombia before the extradition treaty with the United States was eliminated by the Colombian Supreme Court of Justice.

The following are the steps that must be followed to extradite a Colombian citizen.

Before, it was necessary for the Supreme Court of Justice to give its consent for extradition. This is no longer necessary. Now, a resolution signed by President Barco and the justice, government, and defense ministers is enough.

Before, if a person had been charged with drug trafficking or other crimes in Colombia, he or she could not be extradited. With the new measures adopted by the government, that person can be extradited. The only thing Colombia demands from the country requesting extradition is that it does not sentence the extradited person to death or to more than 30 years in prison.

In addition, the country requesting extradition will have to pay for the extradited person's transportation expenses.

Despite the many raids recently conducted by the authorities, no properties have been confiscated from anybody. Properties have only been occupied. Those properties will be handed over to the National Narcotics Council until judges decide whether they were purchased with drug money or used to commit drug trafficking crimes.

Some experts asserted that the new decrees risk being declared invalid because the Constitution states that confiscation is a penalty that cannot be imposed in Colombia. In addition, no decree issued under the state of siege can go against the Constitution.

Forty days from now, when the Supreme Court of Justice and the attorney general finish studying the decrees issued by President Barco, the country will know whether those decrees are constitutional or not.

Results of Operations Summarized

PA2308024589 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Aug 89

[Text] The authorities have carried out 817 raids, seized 680 weapons, 1,161 vehicles, and arrested 10,767 individuals throughout the country. In addition, the police

and Army have confiscated helicopters, yachts, and motorcycles. The following report by Gloria Congote summarizes the actions carried out by the authorities so far:

[Begin Congote recording] In Atlantico Department, the Veracruz Estate owned by Jorge Luis Ochoa remains militarily occupied.

In Antioquia Department, 200 soldiers are still occupying the Napoles Estate, 10 farms, 5 discoteques, and 2 buildings owned by drug trafficker Pablo Escobar. Cocaine valued at more than 1 billion pesos were seized in a farm in Caucasia. The 4 tons of the alchaloid were seized today.

In Caldas Department, raids were carried out in Aguadas, Riosucio, La Dorada, and Villa Maria. Four farms, the Arizona Motel, and property owned by Gustavo Gaviria Escobar in La Francia neighborhood have been occupied by the military.

In Meta Department, the Army occupied 14 farms owned by drug traffickers: 5 luxurious estates in San Martin owned by Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha; 1 estate in Puerto Lopez owned by Victor Carranza; 1 estate in Las Casillas owned by Jairo Castellanos; and farms in Chaparral owned by other drug traffickers.

In Quindio Department, the Army occupied five farms in La Tebaida and the Coconuco Motel in Calarca.

In San Andres Island, members of the Army, Marines, and the police occupied the Cove International, Mariu, and Bahia Marina Hotels owned by Pablo Escobar and Evaristo Porras.

In Tolima Department, five confiscated farms will be turned over to the National Drug Council.

In Risaralda Department, raids in Marsella and Belen de Umbria confirmed the Pereira Cartel's existence. Three farms valued at more than 1.3 billion pesos were militarily occupied in this department.

In Valle del Cauca and Cauca Departments, raids were carried out in Buga, Popayan, and Cerrito. Six farms between Cartago and Zarzal will be turned over to the National Drug Council.

A fleet of small planes and helicopters were seized in the country's airports. They will be turned over to the National Drug Council. The more than 11,000 arrested individuals will be investigated by judges throughout the country. [end recording]

Defense Ministry Reports Actions

PA2308044989 Paris AFP in Spanish 0356 GMT 23 Aug 89

[Text] Bogota, 22 Aug (AFP)—The Colombian Defense Ministry gave the media its first report on the antidrug operations it has carried out in the country after a police colonel, a judge, and presidential candidate, Senator Luis Carlos Galan were murdered last week.

The report indicated that 817 properties in Colombia have been raided, 10,777 persons have been arrested, 678 weapons, and 4,000 kg of cocaine paste have been confiscated since Friday, 18 August.

Government officials also confiscated 110 kg of cocaine, 1,161 vehicles, 30 boats, 13 motorcycles, 42 pieces of communication equipment, and more than 3,000 cartridges of different calibers. It was also reported that 62 planes and 18 helicopters were grounded.

A total of 141 properties, as well as 5,222 farm animals, supposedly belonging to drug traffickers, were also seized.

The Defense Ministry's Information Director Colonel Eduardo Arevalo, stated that operations continue and that the government will continue to search for the big drug "capos." According to unofficial reports, the "capos" have already fled from Colombia because of the strong government offensive against them.

Arevalo stated, that "the citizens' support has been decisive in the success of the Armed Forces' operations" and that he was confident that the flow of information would allow new victories in the struggle against drugs.

Meanwhile, a hundred aircraft of all types were being inspected with dogs trained to detect drugs at the El Dorado International Airport in Bogota tonight. The Civil Aeronautics Directorate has advised all aircraft owners that they must prove that they do not have any links to drug trafficking within the next 7 days.

The same office has reported that the same measure will be applied to other airports in the country in the coming hours.

Concluding, the government issued a decree tonight that goes into immediate effect. The decree authorizes military and police officials to suspend the operation of telecommunications equipment that operate without the authorization of the Communications Ministry. The equipment is to be confiscated and sent to that ministry.

Ministry Lists Raid Results

PA2208232389 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 21 Aug 89 p 1

[Report issued by the National Defense Ministry in Bogota on 20 August]

[Text] The National Defense Ministry informs citizens that in compliance with recent government orders on achieving peace and security throughout the national territory, the Military Forces and the National Police have conducted the following operations:

Military Forces:

1. Seizure and occupation of personal and real estate properties in 207 raids, including the following:

A. Property belonging to Pablo Escobar Gaviria: the Monaco and Gama Buildings in Medellin; a furnished apartment building Cama Suelta in Envigado; the El Biscocho Estate and International Discotheque in Medellin; the El Mago Store, and a fortified house in El Poblado.

B. The Los Arblos Estate on El Poblado road, Medellin, belonging to Gustavo Gaviria.

C. An estate on Las Palmas Avenue in El Poblado, belonging to the Ochoa family.

D. The La Belleza Estate in El Poblado.

E. The Vergel Estate in Cartago (Valle Department), belonging to Hernando Gomez.

F. The Milan Estate in Zarzal (Valle), belonging to Ivan Urdinola.

G. The Alabama Estate in Pereira (Risaralda Department), belonging to Olmedo Ocampo Duque.

H. The Naranjito Estate in Pereira (Risaralda), belonging to Olmedo Duque.

J. Operations against drug traffickers were held on Margento Road in Nechi (Antioquia) and resulted in the confiscation of four tons of coca paste, two R-15 rifles, and five VHF and HF radios.

K. The Napoles Estate in Doradal (Antioquia), belonging to Pablo Escobar Gaviria, was raided; 52 people were arrested and 6 vehicles, 1 bulldozer, 1 loader, 4 boats, 2,000 head of cattle, 100 fine pigs, 3,000 gallons of gasoline, and 1 parabolic antenna were confiscated.

L. The following properties belonging to Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha were confiscated: Inmobiliaria Limited and El Jardin plots in Bogota.

2. We have arrested 502 persons at different road blocks and control points in the country and they have been turned over to the corresponding government authorities.

3. In addition to the above, the following material was confiscated: 290 weapons of different calibers, 25 vehicles, 2 outboard motor boats, 30 kg of cocaine, 1 YAESU radio, and 4 motorcyles.

National Police;

1. The Chihuahua, Cuernavaca, La Sonora, and Mazatlan Estates, belonging to Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha were raided. These estates are located in the vicinity of Pacho (Cundinamarca).

2. Actions undertaken in different parts of the country resulted in the following: 9,896 persons were arrested and referred to the corresponding government authorities, 298 places have been raided; 330 weapons and 1,026 vehicles have been confiscated.

These are all results of military actions undertaken with the support of citizens who supplied pertinent information. This is an all-out war that requires the support of all the country's sectors. Without this support, the government will be unable to eliminate the drug trafficking that has done so much damage to our country.

Signed: General Oscar Botero Restrepo, Defense Minister

More on Drug Confiscations

PA2208230689 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0100 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Report by Diana Maria Rios, Adriana La Rota, Mario Arboleda and Diura Zamora from the cities of Medellin, Bogota, Risaralda and Valle Departments; date not given—recorded]

[Text] Up to now, members of the Colombian Army 4th Infantry Brigade have conducted over 50 raids and confiscated 19 properties in the metropolitan Medellin area. The confiscated properties owned by the Medellin Cartel include the farms El Bizcocho, La Belleza, and Los Arboles; the discotheque Internacional; and the stores El Vago and Cama Suelta, the latter being one of the most luxurious stores in Medellin.

Similarly, the authorities confiscated the Gama and El Monaco Buildings owned by Pablo Escobar [Colombian drug trafficker]. The El Monaco Building was restored after the 1988 attack [not further specified] and although empty and without any furniture, [word indistinct] the inside of the building, millions were invested on the luxurious rooms, bathrooms, and secret entrances and exits.

The 4th Infantry Brigade troops detained approximately 700 people and confiscated many vehicles and weapons while the Antioquia Department Police raided 56 places and detained 281 people.

With checkpoints on the city's main streets and the confiscation of houses and farms, Army operations in the metropolitan area of Medellin continue today.

During the operations carried out this weekend [19-20 August] on the outskirts and in the inner city of Bogota, joint Army and Police forces raided and confiscated at least five properties owned by drug traffickers.

The authorities confiscated a housing complex located on the Northern Highway and 176th Street, which was said to have been abandoned over a year ago. Apparently, the housing complex used to be a drug processing laboratory owned by the Ochoa family [members of the Colombian drug mafia].

The Bogota Police grounded three helicopters and two small planes owned by emerald trader and suspected drug trafficker Victor Carranza. The aircraft were found in a small hangar owned by the Tecmina Enterprise in Guaimaral; the police also raided and confiscated that enterprise, which is located on the way to the Guaimaral Airport. The said property includes a country house provided with a closed circuit television system.

The blows dealt by the Colombian authorities over the past few days fell mainly upon the properties owned by Jose Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha, otherwise known as The Mexican [Colombian drug trafficker]. One of those properties, a social club with sports equipment, pools, and many green areas run by Real State Co. Limited, is located on the Northern Highway and 225th Street. The bushes of the club's green areas have been trimmed to clearly form the initials of Jose Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha.

As for the operations conducted in the inner city, the authorities raided one of the houses owned by The Mexican located on 186th Street-A No 1248, in the exclusive neighborhood of La Cabrera. In the house, the authorities found two men and one woman responsible for taking care of and guarding the house. The house is in fact a luxurious mansion, furnished with imported furniture and decorated with many pieces of Chinese porcelain. The house, however, has not been occupied for some time and some of the many rooms seem never to have been occupied.

According to Decree No 1860 issued by Colombian President Virgilio Barco on 18 August, the properties confiscated or seized by the National Police or the Army will immediately be placed at the service of the National Narcotics Council, which will temporarily convert those properties for official use or to provide community services until the appropriate judges decide on their ultimate use.

INCORA [Colombian Institute of Agrarian Reform] Manager Carlos Ossa Escobar suggested possibly using part of the expropriated land to strengthen the agrariam reform system. The National Narcotics Council will have to study that suggestion, since it is in charge of discussing such cases as the properties confiscated by members of the 8th Infantry Brigade.

The report presented by the Army 8th Infantry Brigade with jurisdiction in Caldas, Quindio, Risaralda, and part of Choco and Valle Departments and in the advanced command posts of southern Cesar Department includes the detention of 2,058 people, over 50 raids, and the confiscation of an undetermined number of weapons, communications equipment, and vehicles.

Most of the properties raided are located on km 41 in a Manizalez rural area and are owned by Pablo Escobar's brother and Carlos Rodriguez, otherwise known as The Spaniard [Colombian drug trafficker]. Other properties located in the rural zone of Pereira City and Montenegro Municipality, Quindio Department, were also confiscated.

The San Francisco Farm located in La Virginia Municipality, Risaralda Department is perhaps the most sophisticated of all the farms raided in the coffee producing regions. The farm has marble floors and pillars, bathrooms with gold taps, expensive furniture, a modern discotheque, porcelain pieces, crystal lamps, a pool, and a big lake. Many farms as luxurious as and more luxurious than this one will continue to be confiscated by the country's authorities during the operation that began 72 hours ago.

The El Valle Department Police launched an unprecedented offensive against properties owned by drug traffickers. Joint Police and Army forces have conducted 35 raids in both urban and rural areas of El Valle Department. The Cali authorities confiscated 15 pieces of real estate and sophisticated weapons, including rifles with telescopic sights, bullet-proof jackets, ammunition, and communications equipment.

At the International Alfonso Bonilla Aragon Airport, the airport police today grounded 80 planes. These planes will not fly until their owners prove they were legally purchased.

The houses raided by the Army include one that is a copy of the exclusive Colombia Club. This house was built by a family that was not accepted as members of the said club. Although the house is not inhabited, its owners redecorate it every year. All the mansions raided by the Army today are built on pieces of land of 2,000 and 3,000 square meters. In each of the houses raided, the Army found international communications equipment, electric doors, parabolic antennae, closed circuit television systems, tennis courts, gymnasiums, and saunas in the houses' main rooms.

The narcotics operations are being carried out mainly in the exclusive neighborhood of Ciudad Jardin in the southern end of Cali City.

CNG Asks for Formation of Constituent Assembly

PA2308010389 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 9 Aug 89 pp 1-A, 2-A

[Text] In a communique signed by the majority of members of the National Guerrilla Coordinating Board [CNG]—headed by the Quintin Lame Front and the PRT [Revolutionary Workers Party], as well as the FARC, [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] and the EPL [Popular Liberation Army]—the subversive organizations have asked for the formation of a constituent assembly.

The document does not mention Rafael Pardo Rueda, the presidential adviser for Peace and Rehabilitation, but it supports holding a plebiscite and referendum.

The CNG has demanded, as a condition for starting a peace process with President Barco's government, that the talks be held at the cabinet ministerial level. By doing this, the subversive movement ruled out any contact with presidential adviser Rafael Pardo Rueda, who has been holding the talks with the M-19.

Yesterday, the CNG sent a communique to President Barco and Government Minister Orlando Vasquez Velasquez through Senator and Conservative Party presidential hopeful Alvaro Leyva Duran, who contacted the subversive leaders by radio. The document, signed by the FARC, EPL, PRT and the Quintin Lame Front, says that this new dialogue "demands commitment at the highest level." Consequently, the CNG says that the dialogue should be held by the commanders of the guerrilla groups that make up the CNG and the cabinet ministers.

For this dialogue process, the CNG also set as a condition that the Commission of Notables participate in the negotiations as a guarantor of any agreements reached with the government.

The guerrilla leaders said that they have set forth "an open agenda to discuss the problems, directed to, from our part, the search for solutions to such topics as the rebels, the dirty war, the lifting of the state of siege and an opening to democracy."

At the same time, the CNG supported a plebiscite and the formation of a constituent assembly and hoped that these mechanisms would be approved in a reformed Constitution because, in its opinion, "they are essential to solving the crisis."

The CNG spokesmen announced that they are ready "to discuss the search for solutions to the points stated in our communiques," and proposed an initial meeting between the commanders of the guerrilla groups that make up the CNG, the government minister, and the Commission of Notables, which will participate as the guarantor of the dialogue.

It is now up to the government to set the date for beginning talks with CNG representatives.

MORENA Leader on Barco's Political Statements

PA2308031089 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Interview with National Reconstruction Movement, MORENA, Spokesman Ivan Roberto Duque by unidentified reporters in Bogota on 17 August—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] What is MORENA's response to the statements made by President Virgilio Barco regarding political movements?

[Duque] [Words indistinct] from now on will insist on [words indistinct] decrees [words indistinct] to determine which political groups are conducting an armed election campaign in our country.

[Reporter] [Word indistinct] is one of the groups financing MORENA or the one that created it?

[Duque] [Word indistinct] is a partner and an active member of MORENA. MORENA was born from this country's urgent need for peace, [word indistinct], and tranquillity. MORENA is the political expression of those who [words indistinct] with weapons.

[Reporter] The armed branch of MORENA [words indistinct] paramilitary of the Middle Magdalena region?

[Duque] That is absolutely false. The armed branch of MORENA is peaceful. We want peace and we will seek peace. Any [words indistinct] morally and physically.

Ecuador

Government Reinforces Borders With Colombia

PA2308010189 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1625 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] Quito, 22 August (DPA)— The Ecuadoran Government has reinforced its border controls along the long area it shares with Colombia to impede Colombian drug traffickers trying to enter Ecuador. It also announced the extension of its binational agreements to fight the drug mafias.

Ecuadoran Government and Justice Minister Andres Vallejo was called by the opposition parties to appear before Congress where he said, "We will take all the steps necessary to stop the violence from spreading into Ecuador."

"Our public forces are on guard" added Vallejo. He did not rule out the possibility that Colombian drug traffickers, whose operation centers are near the border, could try to enter Ecuador to escape from the Colombian Government's offensive after the Medellin Cartel's recent murders.

Vallejo, who is considered to be the strongman of the Ecuadoran regime, stated that "Ecuador is forewarned of the danger," but he did not anticipate what measures would be taken by President Rodrigo Borja's administraton to improve its border controls.

In the past years Colombian drug traffickers have purchased farms in Ecuador to establish operation centers, and it has been noticed that Ecuadoran ports are being used increasingly to ship drugs to the United States and Western Europe. The minister added, "We are fighting drug trafficking very strongly."

Peru

Garcia Suggests Early Transfer of Panama Canal

PY2208190789 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Excerpt] At a news conference at the Government Palace, President Alan Garcia announced that he will propose that the United States move up the date for handing over control of the Panama Canal and that General Manuel Noriega may then step down. If the United States wants democracy for Panama it should announce to the world that it will move up the date for handing over control of the Panama Canal to a legitimate government elected by the Panamanian people. If the U.S. does not do this, it means that it is not really interested in transfering the canal's administration to Panama.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Mr President, in an article published in THE NEW YORK TIMES, you said that the United States should move up the date for handing over the canal to Panama as a way of making it possible for General Noriega to leave Panama.

[President Garcia] I believe that the United States has a good nonmilitary way to help install and consolidate democracy in Panama. Since democracy in Panama ended because of the fraud and the manipulations, all the countries of the world have demanded that a representative, popular, and democratic system be reinstated in that country. Our ability to exert pressure is very limited. The United States has embargoed Panamanian bank accounts and has blocked Panamanian trade, yet the same government remains in power a year later. The ability to apply economic pressure to Panama has become exhausted. The United States has sent troops to the Canal Zone, over which it holds power until 1999, but has failed to intimidate the Panamanian Government. In fact, that U.S. move has rallied the Panamanian people behind Gen Noriega, who holds the strings of power in Panama. All Latin American countries have demanded that democracy be restored in Panama, but our leverage does not go further than making a demand. The OAS, which represents all of these countries, has sent a commission to Panama, but this commission has so far not announced any definite, positive result. This means that the international pressure that seeks to restore democracy in Panama is vanishing. Within Panama, following the electoral enthusiasm prior to the annulled elections, the pressure of the internal opposition is also petering out despite the fact that it won the elections. Consequently, I have made a proposal through THE NEW YORK TIMES, which is the most important newspaper in the United States. If the United States wants democracy for Panama, it should announce to the world that it will move up the date for handing over the Panama Canal, now scheduled for 1999, to a legitimate government elected by the Panamanian people. This would pull the rug from under Gen Noriega, who would then no longer be able to count on his Defense Force or the people of good faith in Panama and in Latin America who believe that if they defend Noriega they are defending the canal for Panama. So, by ceasing to intervene in the Central Zone and by moving up the date of the treaty, the United States has a way to force Gen Noriega out of power in Panama. This is the proposal and we will wait for reactions that should be forthcoming, since all Latin America is interested in this problem. [passage omitted]

APRA, Interior Ministry Linked to Terrorists

PY2208162689 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2325 GMT 21 Aug 89

[Text] Lima, 21 Aug (EFE)—Communist Deputy Gustavo Espinoza has stated in Lima today that a group of congressmen from the ruling APRA [American Popular Revoluitonary Alliance] party have declined to participate in a commission to investigate the actions of a terrorist group because evidence has been found that links this group to the government.

Espinoza added that these APRA deputies resigned after the commission had managed to collect "sufficient evidence to establish a direct relationship between the Rodrigo Franco Command (CRF) and the Interior Ministry."

The Communist deputy criticized the Peruvian police chiefs for their "resolute decision" not to investigate the CRF and called them "incompetent and inefficient" for not being able "to find any trace" of this terrorist group.

"In a month of investigations, the commission has discovered much more than the police investigations. Yes, we have information, we have evidence, and we have clues, and they have absolutely nothing," the deputy stated.

Espinoza, a member of the Communist front group United Left, added that he had found evidence that links Peruvian Interior Minister Agustin Mantilla with the CRF and mentioned "the importation of weapons, their personal ties, and their activities."

He added that the reports obtained by the commission indicate that the CRF is a hierarchically organized terrorist group with members throughout the country since 1988, operational bases, weapons smuggled into the country, and economic resources.

The public denunciations made by Espinoza through newspapers, magazines, and political television programs have not received any immediate official answer, not even from the ruling APRA party.

Moreover, Communist Deputy Manuel Piqueras Luna has not returned to Chamber of Deputies since last Friday, after reporting to the press that he was threatened with death after revealing the results of the investigations into the CRF.

He said: "I have received a new threat from the CRF. You take a step and we will shoot you, they told me."

Espinoza and Piqueras have released the names of people linked to the CRF who are said to have a direct relationship with APRA.

Moreover, photographs of those people were published by the weekly political magazine OIGA, which is opposed to the government.

Interior Minister Denies Ties

PY2208211289 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] Interior Minister Agustin Mantilla has stated that neither he, his ministry, nor members of the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance are in any way connected with paramilitary groups, let alone the Rodrigo Franco group.

Mantilla made the following remarks to our stations: [Begin recording] [Mantilla] Well, this campaign was started more than 4 years ago by a media organization. It was later joined by the terrorist newspapers, that is, EL DIARIO and CAMBIO, and these allegations were today endorsed by Deputy Gustavo Espinoza who is obviously doing this to obtain political-electoral benefits.

[Reporter] Are you telling me that the Rodrigo Franco terrorist organization has no links with the ruling party, the cabinet ministers, or with senior police officers?

[Mantilla] They are merely speculating about links and thus building a house of cards. If these people had any evidence I am sure they would have produced it before a court. They are aware, however, that their allegations are completely false.

A preliminary report prepared by Deputy Espinoza's committee is based on speculation and lacks specific hard evidence.

[Reporter] As interior minister, how would you explain the fact that two Rodrigo Franco attacks that claimed several victims still remain unsolved, that an in-depth investigation is still pending, that no arrests have yet been made, that there are no specific results regarding these attacks?

[Mantilla] Many attacks have yet to be cleared up. Some murders of prefects, mayors, and other government officials still remain unsolved. This should not mean that charges should be made against anyone, it simply means that we are facing a very difficult, delicate problem. Thus, no one should be raising charges merely to promote his political interests. These cases are under investigations which at some point will result in the identification of the criminals. There is no perfect crime. [end recording]

Car Bomb Explodes Near Congress; No Deaths

PY2208134189 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0339 GMT 21 Aug 89

[Text] Lima, 21 Aug (EFE)—Eyewitnesses have reported that a car bomb went off approximately 200 meters from the Peruvian Congress building in downtown Lima this evening, injuring two passers-by.

The blast, which occurred in the Ancash zone near an Army printing house, shattered windows in nearby houses and vehicles.

The police were immediately on the scene and did not report any casualties. [qs received]

Shortly after the explosion, there were power outages in several Lima sectors similar to those caused by the Maoist Shining Path group's attacks on power pylons. This time, however, it was impossible to learn the cause of the outages, which affected Chorrillos, Miraflores, Jesus Maria, Chaclacayo, and other areas.

The electric power supply to Lima was normalized only 2 weeks ago. The power had been restricted by the state power company after Shining Path groups blew up more than 30 pylons during the Peruvian Independence celebrations at the end of July.

Bomb Near Army Press Building Kills Passerby

PY2208154089 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1349 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] Lima, 22 Aug (TELAM-ANSA)—A car bomb went off today in front of the Army Press Headquarters, which is located in the densely populated Barrio Alto District in Lima, some eight blocks from Government House.

The explosion killed a passerby, injured a soldier, and caused a great amount of damage.

The explosion took place only a few meters from the site where, 3 months ago, a guerrilla group attacked a bus carrying members of the Presidential Guard and killed six soldiers and a civilian.

Other terrorist attacks have destroyed several high-tension power pylons along the central highway. Several parts of the country are still in the dark as a result of these attacks.

In the Andean village of Abancay, terrorists have killed four teachers. [number as received]

Alleged Terrorists Kill 5 Teachers in Abancay

PY2208153489 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0141 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] Lima, 21 Aug (EFE)—A radio station has reported in Lima today that alleged terrorists shot dead five public school teachers in the Andean district of Silca, Abancay Province, 548 km southeast of Lima.

A "Radioprograma" correspondent reported in a phone call that the teachers were captured on 17 August by a commando group of alleged members of the Shining Path. After a so-called "trial by the people," the teachers were killed.

The correspondent added that the authorities were informed of the murders only today because the alleged terrorists threatened the townspeople with death if they reported the multiple murder.

More Terrorist Attacks Reported

PY2208200389 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0351 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Text] Ayacucho, 21 Aug (EFE)—Police sources in the town of Ayacucho have reported that at least 10 people have been killed in political violence in various parts of Ayacucho Department, south of Lima, over the past weekend.

Five people were killed yesterday by alleged members of the Maoist Shining Path terrorist group, three of whom were killed in vehicles in which they were traveling to Lima. Near the village of Rumichaca, 195 km from Ayacucho, a terrorist stopped a government hydroelectric project station wagon, tied up the driver, and placed a bomb in the station wagon. The driver was killed and the vehicle was destroyed. In an attack on another vehicle, terrorists shot two peasants whom they charged with being "informers."

On 19 August, a Shining Path column clashed with members of a Peasant Defense Patrol—a civil defense organization against subversion—near San Miguel, in La Mar Province, Ayacucho Department. Two members of the Peasant Defense Patrol were killed during this incident.

People arriving from Ayacucho have reported that on the same day, a group of Peasant Defense Patrol members executed five fellow members near the Luisiana Military Base in Santa Rosa, Ayacucho, on charges of spying for the Shining Path.

Military sources have reported in Ayacucho that today a soldier who was carrying a grenade was killed and three other soldiers were injured in the village of Huaytara, Huancavelica Department, when the grenade accidentally went off.

Yesterday, a Shining Path column kidnapped five youths in Choclococha, Ayacucho Department, and forced them to enlist in the Shining Path. According to eyewitnesses, two of the youths had been released from the Army after finishing their military service.

Police sources have also reported that a group of about 15 Shining Path members today killed 2 peasants in the presence of their wives and children. This occurred in the village of Taurapampa, 12 km from Huaraz, the capital of the northern Ancash Department. The terrorists then set fire to the peasants' homes.

Political violence in Peru has caused the death of some 15,000 people since May 1980, when the Shining Path started its armed struggle.

Venezuela

Foreign Minister Comments on Colombian Situation

PA2208174289 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Aug 89

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] The Colombian Government will not accept the U.S. Government's offer of sending troops to reinforce its struggle against drug trafficking, a decision that Venezuelan Foreign Minister Enrique Tejera Paris believes is wise.

Colombian Embassy official Clara Ines Vargas de Losada said that, although Colombia accepts technical collaboration from other countries, as a sovereign nation it must fight drug trafficking with its own Armed Forces. Drug trafficking activities have become embedded in that neighboring country with very sad consequences. The diplomat admitted that, among other things, drug traffickers want to undermine democracy and destabilize its institutions.

[Vargas de Losada] "This problem requires action by the international community. There have been many international conferences on this subject recently, as well as agreements and coordination among various states to plan joint actions and exchange information in order to conduct a more effective struggle. However, the participation of troops is something different; there are other ways of international collaboration."

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Enrique Tejera Paris echoed other Latin American voices in condemning the recent incidents in Colombia. He said that he had telephoned his Colombian counterpart Julio Londono to reiterate Venezuela's solidarity. Tejera also called on the United Nations to ratify a treaty against drug trafficking.

[Tejera Paris] "He told me about the measures adopted by the Colombian Government, which are many. Naturally, I offered our cooperation. However, I believe that the Colombian Government is handling the situation very well."

[Unidentified reporter] "What do you think about the U.S. offer?"

[Tejera Paris] "I think that Colombia will not accept this offer. No country can accept the presence of foreign troops. I am sure that the Republic of Colombia, a very respectable country, will solve its problems by itself."

Number of Troops at Colombian Border Doubled

PA2308014689 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Aug 89

[Text] Defense Minister Air Force General Filmo Lopez Uzcategui noted at Miraflores Palace today that the number of Venezuelan troops assigned to the border area has been doubled to confront the serious Colombian situation. He pointed out that preventive orders have been issued to ensure more control and security to avoid Colombian rebels or drug traffickers from entering the country, although none had done so up to now. The defense minister reported on the area where these instructions are to be implemented:

[Begin Lopez recording] We are going to increase our troops in the Paez District, Apure State. We are going to send a special army unit to the La Charca post. They are to be stationed specifically at this post. We have also instructed the Zulia State Division Command to redouble its surveillance and control in the border area. [end recording]

We were informed that the troops that are to replace the Jose Antonio Paez Special Command are to be designated next week. These soldiers work at station No 1 in the El Lule and La Charca area. It was also reported that the DISIP [Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services] will only give auxiliary intelligence aid as it will not have operation duties.

Perez Meets With Nicaraguan Vice President

PA2308034689 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1455 GMT 20 Aug 89

[Text] Caracas, 20 Aug (DPA)—It was reported today that in an unexpected meeting, Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez met with Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez in Caracas to discuss the development of the Nicaraguan peace process.

The meeting, of which no details were released, was held at the Miraflores Presidential Palace on the afternoon of 19 August and lasted over an hour. After the meeting, Ramirez left through a presidential palace back door without making statements to the press.

According to reports, the politicians discussed the development of the Nicaraguan peace process, the creation of a climate for a dialogue with the anti-Sandinist contra movement, and the declaration of an amnesty for the Nicaraguan rebels.

According to the reports, Perez and Ramirez also talked about the creation of conditions for carrying out the Nicaraguan opposition's activities with a view toward the upcoming May [as received] elections.

In mid-July, Perez held a surprise meeting with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega in Caracas.

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